

CONTRACT

Worthy of the Roads of the New World

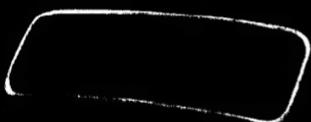
On fast modern motorways, as on the primitive roads of remote continents, Humber rides supreme. Docile in traffic, serenely indifferent to changing road surfaces, it is quick in response to the chance to leap ahead. Throughout the world, Humber worthily upholds the British tradition of excellence.



BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. THE KING
MOTOR CAR MANUFACTURERS, HUMBER LIMITED

H U M B E R

HAWK · SNIPE · SUPER SNIPE · PULLMAN



COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CI No. 2629

CHECKED

JUNE 6, 1947

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY 050

By direction of G. A. McAndrew, Esq.

HAMPSHIRE. 7 MILES FROM FARNHAM

46 miles from London. With electric trains to London in just over an hour.

HEADLEY PARK ESTATE, HEADLEY, 585 ACRES



A Home Farm with attractive Farmhouse, picturesque old mill and 6 cottages.

An excellent Dairy Farm with old-world farmhouse, modern cowshed, ample buildings and 2 cottages.

WITH VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE (except one cottage)

For Sale by Auction as a whole or in 2 Lots at Farnham, on Tuesday, July 22, 1947, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously sold).

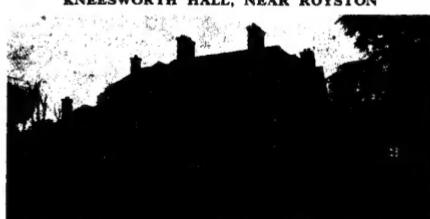
Land Agents: Messrs. HILLARY & CO., 37, Lavant Street, Petersfield. Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (Particulars 2/6.)

By direction of the Executors of Mary Viscountess Knutsford, deceased

40 MILES NORTH OF LONDON

Cambridge 12 miles, Newmarket 25 miles. Convenient access by road and rail. Good local bus service.

KNEESWORTH HALL, NEAR ROYSTON



The Hall (with Vacant Possession) is a Georgian replica of attractive appearance in mellowed brick, approached by a drive with lodge.

Hall, 5 reception rooms, 28 bed and dressing rooms, 7 bathrooms. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Excellent stabling and garage block.

Nine good cottages.

Solicitors: Messrs. GRAY & DODSWORTH, 4, Sun Court, Corhill, E.C.3.
Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (Particulars price 1/-).

Light healthy soil. In all about

200 ACRES

Parklike pasture, arable and woodland with frontage to the old North Road. Also separately the

Mill House (let)

an attractive small residential property, with outbuildings and paddock.

For Sale by Auction in July as a whole or in Lots (unless previously sold).

FREEHOLD AGRICULTURAL AND VILLAGE PROPERTIES AT ISFIELD, NEAR LEWES, SUSSEX. 336 ACRES

Including

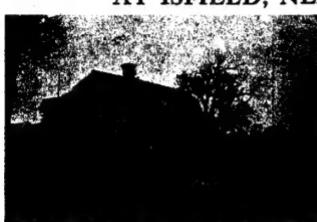
BOATHOUSE FARM OF 251 ACRES

Three reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, ample offices, extensive buildings.

One mile of trout and coarse fishing in the Ouse.

Fertile pastures. Six cottages. Long road frontage. With Vacant Possession.

Capital holdings with cottages, buildings, 68 acres and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of trout



BOATHOUSE FARM

Six other cottages, agricultural and accommodation land with long road frontages. Mainly Vacant Possession.

For Sale by Auction in 10 Lots at the White Hart Hotel, Lewes, on Monday, June 30, 1947, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold).

Solicitors: Messrs. HUNT, NICHOLSON, ADAMS & CO., Lewes.

Land Agents: Messrs. POWELL, ADAMS & CO., Lewes.

Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (Particulars 1/-).

HOMESTEAD FROM BOUSE-WEST



JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER ST., LONDON, W.1

CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, LEEDS, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

Of special interest to Hotels, Restaurants and Festivities, as well as to private buyers.

WESTON MANOR, OXFORDSHIRE

(Oxford 6 miles, Bicester 5 miles, London 85 miles)



Two hard tennis courts. Total area about 35 ACRES.

(The property is at present let as the Weston Manor Country Club.)

To be Sold by Auction on Friday, June 13, 1947, at 2 p.m., at the London Auction Mart, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4, on Wednesday,

Sellers: Messrs. ALFRED TRUMAN & SONS, Biscuit Auctioneers:

JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1.

THE FISHPOOL ESTATE TARPORLEY, CHESHIRE

between Delamere and Tarporley.

Including the freehold Headless Fishpool Inn situated on the main Winsford Road (let at £102 per annum until Lady Day, 1949). Four farm buildings and 1 Cottage (let and producing approximately £140 per annum) and 50 acres in hand. Total area about 16 ACRES.

To be offered for Sale by Auction (unless previously sold privately) at the Grosvenor Hotel, Chester, on Wednesday, June 13, 1947, at 2.30 p.m.

Illustrated particulars and plan (price 1/-) from the Auctioneers: 1. JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 28, Nicholls Street, Chester (Tel. 1348).

Land Agents: Messrs. WICKHAM & BECKETT, 8, Worcester Row, Chichester, Sussex.

Sellers: Messrs. WILSON, WRIGHT, EARLE AND CO., 94, Moseley Street, Manchester.

BUCKS-BEDS BORDERS

Buckley 11 miles, Bedford 13 miles.

WITH VACANT POSSESSION

THE GEORGIAN HOUSE, THE OLD RECTORY, FILGRAVE



At the Angel Hotel, Northampton, on Wednesday, July 2, 1947, at 3 p.m. Sellers: Messrs. PHIPPS & TROUP, Northampton. Particulars of the Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Northampton (Tel. 2816/8).

Grosvenor 2121
(3 lines)

UNEXPECTEDLY AVAILABLE.

WILTS.

In a favourite residential district.

A WELL MODERNISED CHARMING

OLD MANOR HOUSE

SEVEN BEDROOMS

BATHROOMS

3 RECEPTION ROOMS ETC.

STABLING, GARAGE AND MATURED GROUNDS

FOR SALE WITH 60 ACRES

Sole Agents:

WINKWORTH & CO., 48, CURZON STREET, LONDON, W.1.

WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1

In a fine univalued position.

KENT COAST

Directly overlooking sea and next to golf course.

A MODERN RESIDENCE
on two floors. Seven bed, 2 bath and 4 reception rooms.
Main service. Fitted baths. Central heating.
Grounds of nearly 1 ACRE

PRICE £12,000

Agents: WINKWORTH & CO., Mayfair, London, W.1.

Preliminary Announcement. By direction of executors of late Charles H. Mitchell, Esq.

NORTH WALES

Within the borough of Colwyn Bay.

Unique small Residential Estate known as THE FLAGSTAFF ESTATE

Enjoying unrivalled panoramic views of sea and mountain scenery. Total area 100 acres. 10 built houses; 2-3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. All modern conveniences. Stabling. Garages. Farm buildings. Annexes. Two buildings. Large swimming pool and ornamental stream.

retreat overlooking sea. Superb gardens and grounds including a large lawn, bowling lawns, woodland.

Range of 10 glass houses, woodland.

In all about 2½ ACRES

For Sale by Auction on Thursday, June 26 (unless previously sold privately).

Particulars from the Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 28, Nicholls Street, Chester (Tel. 1348).

NEAR SOUTHMINSTER, ESSEX

Between the estuaries of the Crouch and the Blackwater. Southminster Station 4 miles. Burnham-on-Crouch 6 miles.

THE PROFITABLE ARABLE AND DAIRY FARMS
DENGIE MANOR, DENGIE, WITH VACANT
POSSESSION.

Queen Anne farm buildings. Four good cottages and 252 ACRES

New Hall Farm with Queen Anne farmhouse converted into 2 cottages. Two paddocks, stableage, farm buildings and 160 ACRES

New Hall, containing hall, 2 reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Main water. Garden with ornamental pond.

Two paddocks, 50 ACRES and valuable arable land, situated about a mile Burnham-on-Crouch, of 45 ACRES approximately.

The whole extending to approximately 265 ACRES

For Sale by Auction on Friday, June 13, 1947.

Particulars from the Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 28, Nicholls Street, London, W.1.

By direction of Mrs. Jessie German.

GLOUCESTER-WORCESTER BORDERS

EMINENTLY SUITABLE AS AN INSTITUTION, SCHOOL, HOTEL OR
COUNTRY CLUB

LOT 1.—"The Court,"

A magnificent mansion in

very good order. Thirty

bedrooms, 2 reception rooms.

Electricity. Estate water supply.

Central heating. Stabling.

Four cottages, gardens and grounds.

50 ACRES.

LOT 2.—Valuable Market

Garden and Cottage.

5½ ACRES.

To be sold by Auction

(unless previously sold

by private treaty)

at the Royal Hotel, Tewkesbury, Gloucester, on Friday, June 13, 1947, at 3 p.m.

at the Royal Hotel, Gloucester, on Saturday, June 14, 1947, at 10 a.m.

Princes Gate, London, S.W.7 (Tel. Kensington 3703). Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS, Castle Street, Cirencester (Telephone 3346).

FOR ACTIVE PURCHASERS.

WANTED

(1.) OXFORDSHIRE, BERKSHIRE or WILTSHIRE

Modernised House in rural position. Twelve bedrooms. Two cottages. Grounds with shooting if possible. Price up to about £25,000. Reference "L.C."

(2.) SURREY

Within easy reach of Cobham.

Five bed, 3 staff rooms. Must be up to date and in secluded grounds, preferably 50 ACRES. Possession required Sept. Reference "Mrs. L."

(3.) SUSSEX or KENT

Period House of really fine character. Ten bedrooms in all (preferably in suites), 4 reception rooms. If possible, small park and farm. Up to £25,000. Reference "H.W."

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

BERKS—LONDON 26 MILES

1½ miles from Maidenhead Station.

RAY COURT

A Freehold residence built of mellowed red brick with a tiled roof and standing on a sandy loam soil with all round views.



For Sale by Auction in July (unless previously sold).

Advertisers: Messrs. BILL & ACKROYD, 112, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. Particulars 1/-.

BETWEEN ASHFORD AND FOLKESTONE

Delightful House of Georgian character, extremely well-equipped and in first-rate order.



ABOUT 17 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

Vacant Possession

Agents: Messrs. ALFRED J. BURROWS, CLEMENTS WINCH & SONS, Ashford, Kent, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

Mayfair 377.
(16 lines.)

Entrance hall, 4 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and domestic offices with "Agn." Central heating. Main water and electricity. Garage for 4. Good cottage containing 6 rooms.

Attractive gardens and grounds with kitchen garden and 3 paddocks.

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

9 MILES FROM OXFORD

Well situated, facing S.W. Outskirts of a delightful old village.

FINE OLD STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE

dating back in part to 1590, sympathetically restored and enlarged.

Lovely hall, 6 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 bath-rooms, 2 attics, garret, Conservatory, gas and water. Telephone. Modern drainage. Garage for 4 cars. Stable for 3. Out-house and stable and other outbuildings. First-rate cottages with laundry, kitchen, city and bathroom.

Very beautiful gardens with lawns, flower and rose gardens, double arches, yew trees, walls. Monks' fishpond and ponds. Fronting Wallingford.

ABOUT 30 ACRES. FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (48375)

ESSEX—LONDON 52 MILES

Liverpool Street 70 minutes. Main Line Station 3 miles.

Tudor style Residence built of mellow red brick facing S. and W., approached by two drives, one wide, one narrow.

Oak panelled hall, 4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 5 bath-rooms. C.R.C. electricity and water. Central heating. Modern drainage. Garage for 12. Chauffeur's flat. Gardens, artificial lake. Two kitchen gardens.

ABOUT 11 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

Additional land might be purchased.

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (7896)

Telegrams:
"Nichesay, Floop, London."
"Nichesay, Reading."



Regent 0892/3377
Reading 4441

4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1, STATION ROAD, READING

By direction of the Hon. Mrs. F. H. Cripps.

BUCKS

Amid the glorious Chilterns, 35 miles of London. THAT BEAUTIFUL FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE "DOOR PARADE END"

between High Wycombe and Henley-on-Thames

Comprising a lovely old house, restored and modernised by

Full of old beams and paneling.

8 bed and dressing rooms, 3 servante bedrooms, 3 bath rooms, 3 reception rooms and excellent offices with "Agn." rocker.

Central heating. Company's electric light and water. Stabling, garage, outbuildings, kitchen garden and paddocks.

IN ALL ABOUT 85 ACRES

which Messrs. NICHOLAS, London and Reading, will sell by auction at the Town Hall, Henley-on-Thames on Wednesday, June 10, 1947, at 10.30 a.m. Particulars and conditions of sale of the Auctioneers: Messrs. DAVISON, WATTS-JONES & CO. Ltd., 6, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2, or of the Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 6, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1, and at Reading.

By direction of C. F. Woodrow, Esq.

The attractive Freehold Residential Property

known as

WOODFALLS, BUCKS QUARRY

Containing 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, 3 dressing rooms, well-planned offices. Central heating. Main electricity and water. Conservatory, Garage, Double garage. Stabling.

Charming garden, tennis lawn, large orchard, kitchen garden and paddock in all about

13 ACRES VACANT POSSESSION

which will be sold on completion of the sale of the property.

Which Messrs. NICHOLAS will sell by Auction (unless previously disposed of) at the London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, on Wednesday, June 25, 1947, at 2.30 p.m. precisely.

Particulars and conditions of sale of the Auctioneers: Messrs. PRAGG & GODDARD, 6, Aldford Street, W.1, or of the Auctioneers as above.

SUSSEX

Between Guildford and Horsham.



OXFORD
64378

CHIPPING
NORTON
39

Preliminary Announcement of Sale.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK
OXFORD AND CHIPPING NORTON

STADHAMPTON, NEAR OXFORD

In the triangle formed by Oxford, Thame and Wallingford.

AN UNIQUE AND DELIGHTFULLY PICTURESQUE LITTLE PROPERTY

comprising a SMALL UNPOLEOLED STONE-BUILT GEORGIAN MILL HOUSE

Containing, briefly, hall, 2 sitting rooms and 4 bedrooms, having main electric light and power connected, good water supply and telephone.

Adjoining is the ancient three-story water course mill (still functioning).

Mill pond and sluice. Trout stream. Garage and outbuildings. Garden and paddock, and in all about 15 ACRES

To be Sold by Public Auction (unless sold privately meanwhile), during July by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, of Oxford.

IN THE VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE

Springton 4 miles.

AN INTERESTING MODERNISED GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Lounge hall, 5 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 sitting rooms, 2 side bedrooms. Main electric light and power. Ample water and power. Telephone. Garage and stable. In all about 5 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Recommended by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.

BETWEEN OXFORD AND BANBURY

Hunting with the Hedges and the Bladon Hounds.

PICTURESQUE JACOBEAN-STYLE HOUSE

occupying a lovely position.

Lovely hall, 8 reception rooms, 5 principal and 3 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electric light and power connected, good water supply and telephone.

Garage and outbuildings. Two cottages. In all about 15 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Apply: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

Regent 0222 (15 lines)

Teleg. "Belvoir, Picay, London"



LOVELY SITUATION ON CHILTERN, BUCKS

49½ feet wide, 3½ miles from Town.



THIS FINE OLD MANOR HOUSE
with drive approach. Stables, hall, 3 reception rooms, 14 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms and offices. Main services, modern drainage.

Two cottages, stabling, garage, buildings.

Charming old-world garden, woodland.

In all over 27 ACRES

PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD

Recommended. **John S. Petherick, BLESLEY AND SPYER, 221, Putney Road, N.W.3, and HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.42.019)**

Urgent Sale Desired.

SURREY

Picked situation in the lovely Headcorn district. South aspect. Fine views.



THIS BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED FREEHOLD MODERN RESIDENCE

Four reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, three bathrooms, staff sitting room.

Garage, Chauffeur's flat, Lodge. Main services. Central heating.

LOVELY GROUNDS OF 5½ ACRES

A really first-class property.

Price and further details from the Sole Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.33.429)

BETWEEN GUILDFORD AND HORSHAM

Surrey. Occupying a delightful position 1 mile from station.



CHOICE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE OF 100 ACRES.

FINE OLD JACOBEAN HOUSE

with south aspect in centre of park. In excellent condition. Lofted hall, 3 reception rooms, boudoir, lanser hall, 12 bed and dressing and 4 baths.

Main services. Central heating.

Garage, stabling. Square court. Two cottages. 2 flats. Old-world gardens, woodland, pasture and arable lands.

£25,000 FREEHOLD

Further details from HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.45.575)

CHOICE SITUATION BETWEEN WORTHING AND LITTLEHAMPTON



AN OUTSTANDING AND LUXURIOUSLY FITTED RESIDENCE

In the Old English style with sea views; in beautiful order throughout.

Every modern comfort. Magnificent hall, 40 ft. x 20 ft., 4 fine receptions, complete labour-saving offices, 6 principal and staff 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

Central heating throughout. Main services.

Garage. Greenhouse, 2 excellent flats.

GROUNDS OF EXTREME BEAUTY in all about 2 ACRES

This exceptional Freehold Property would be sold completely furnished.

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (D.49.284)

ESSEX, IN A PARK

One mile village, 2 miles main line station.



A DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN RESIDENCE
The orangery of an 18th-century house, south aspect, in a sylvan setting.

Entrance hall, large sitting room, dining room, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths.

Electric light. Gas & water.

Garage. Stabling. Useful outbuildings.
Charming old-world formal gardens and natural woodland
in all about 4 ACRES.

PRICE £7,000 FREEHOLD

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (M.46.451)

FACING WIMBLEDON COMMON

THIS DELIGHTFUL MODERN RESIDENCE
FOR SALE FREEHOLD



Three reception including oak panelled study. Polished oak floors to hall and reception rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 baths.

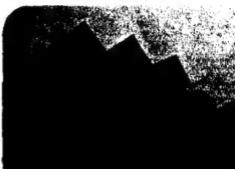
Central heating. Gravel soil.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Owner's Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, High Street, Wimbledon Common, S.W.19. WIM. 0081. (D.3662)

DATCHET, BUCKS

Good views of open country. Excellent sporting facilities.
Irreproachable repair.



"NORTHFIELDS," MODERN LUXURIOUSLY EQUIPPED FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

With all Co. services, containing, on only two floors, hall, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, dining room and breakfast room. Garage for 1 or 2 cars. Delightful pleasure and quietest office. Garage for 1 or 2 cars. Delightful pleasure and kitchen gardens of nearly 4 acres, with possession.

For Sale by Auction at the St. James's Estate Office, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1, on Friday, June 20, next, at 2.30 p.m. (entries sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. W. STUCHEBERRY & SON, 15-16, Park Street, Windsor, Berks. Purchasers from the auctioneers: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

Regent
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

EAST DEVON

In a splendid position overlooking the sea and with due south aspect. Within easy reach of Exeter.

A Delightful Residence of the Georgian Period



Hall, 3 reception, billiards room, 12 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Own electricity. Excellent water supply. Central heating. Stabling for 5. Garage.

Well laid out gardens with lawns, tennis courts, walled kitchen garden, vineyard, peach houses, etc., the whole including a stable block.

ABOUT 5 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,807)

SIDMOUTH

Occupying an excellent position in this delightful part of the Devon coast, only a few hundred yards from the sea.

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

with hall, 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

All Mains Services. Central Heating.

Large garage. Useful outbuildings.

Matured gardens with lawns, flower borders, kitchen garden, etc., in all

ABOUT 1 ACRE

FOR SALE WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,946)

HAYES, KENT

Situated in a fine position on high ground near bus routes and within a few minutes' walk of the station.

A DELIGHTFUL MODERN RESIDENCE

containing hall, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main services. Large Garage.

Small matured gardens in well-maintained condition.

PRICE FRESHOLD ONLY £4,500

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,065)

88, ALBEMARLE ST.,
PICCADILLY, W.1

IN THE HEART OF EXMOOR

Occupying a unique situation, facing south and commanding

The exceptionally attractive Property

known as

WINSFORD GLEBE, NEAR MINEHEAD

designed by and erected under the supervision of an architect.



Three reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, attics.

COTTAGE FARM BUILDINGS

Range of stabling and garages. Delightful ornamental gardens, parklike grounds, tennis court, shooting gallery, etc., in all

ABOUT 40 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD. Joint Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above, and Messrs. CHANNIN & THOMAS, 18, Blaize Street, Minehead, Somerset.

2, MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grovesnor
1038-33

Just in the Market. For Sale by order of Executors.

SURREY

FINEST POSITION ON WENTWORTH

Favoured site on high ground, southern exposure, with lovely views over Chisham Common and the distant hills beyond. Just over one mile from Sunningdale Station.

A SINGULARLY CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

Delightfully planned accommodation on two floors only. Eight bedrooms fitted baths b. and c., wardrobe room, 4 bathrooms, 8 reception rooms, loggia, labour-saving offices, maid's sitting room. Main electricity, gas and water. Central heating, automatic feed (thermostatically controlled).

Large heated garage with spacious room over. Up-to-date cottage, 4 rooms and bathroom.

TERRACED GARDENS OF EXCEPTIONAL CHARM. Formal garden, rock and water garden, kitchen garden, etc., in all about 7½ ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Confidentially recommended by the Owner's Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 2, Mount Street, W.1.

The Furniture and Effects will be offered for Sale by Auction on July 14 next.

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

Regent 2461

A HOME OF EXCEPTIONAL CHARACTER

Overlooking parkland between Hampton Court and Walton on Thames.



1 ACRE FREEHOLD £2,500

F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Regent 2461.

A small white Georgian House in faultless order throughout. Three reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maid's sitting room. Main services. Central heating. Garage. Fine lawns. Delightfully timbered grounds.

SURREY, SOUTH OF BLETCHINGLEY RIDGE

Only 22 miles from London in unspoilt country. 3½ miles from Redhill Junction. Old-fashioned Country House in good order and having well-proportioned rooms. In quiet situation, close to bus service. Six bed, bath, 3 reception rooms. Aga cooker. All main services. Garage, stabling. Productive and shady gardens about 2 ACRES

£2,800

Inspected and recommended by F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

BERKHAMSTED, HERTS. SPUR OF CHILTERN

Ideal position. Glorious views to Ashridge Park. 50 minutes London.

Residence of charming character built in form of a castle. Three reception, 5½ bedrooms, bathroom, laundry, planed rooms. Central heating. Main services. Drive, garage, entrance lodge and summer residence in ivy-clad distillery (6 rooms and bathroom). Garage. Delightful gardens, hard tennis court, orchard. 8 ACRES

£2,800 FOR WHOLE PROPERTY

Sale Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

184, BROMPTON ROAD
LONDON, S.W.3

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

Kensington
1038-3

13 MILES EXETER 6 MILES EDGE OF DARTMOOR



100 ft. up facing south. THIS CHARMING OLD-ENGLISH HOUSE has oak paneling, oak beams, open fireplaces. Electric light, central heating, etc. Lounge 21 x 18 ft., dining room, 5 bed, bathroom, etc. Large garden with fine lawns and terrace. A STUNNING ESTATE AT THE BOTTOM.

6 ACRES
Pasture, rough grazing, and woodland. Freehold with Possession, only £4,000.

NEAR AYLESBURY IN A PRETTY HISTORIC VILLAGE

JUST OFFERED

This pictureque genuine Old-English residence has oak beams, open fireplaces, with beamed grates, tiled floors, pine panelling, oak and elm boarded floors and other period features. Seven bedrooms, 2 reception, 20 ft. x 14 ft., 18 ft. x 10 ft., 12 ft. x 10 ft., 16 ft. x 10 ft., etc. 2 bathrooms. Main sitz, and water. Garage. Delightful gardens of 1 acre. Immediate Possession. Freehold £2,000.

Grosvenor 1553
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25. MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1.

Robert Potts, Kates 84,
West Halkin St.,
Belgrave Sq.,
and 10, Victoria St.,
Westminster, S.W.1.

PRELIMINARY AUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT.

"WINKLEBURY HILL," NEAR BASINGSTOKE, HANTS

Within 2 miles of station, close to bus service. South aspect, 400 feet above sea level.



Secluded position. Reputed to date from Jacobean times. This delightful little Residence contains on two floors only: Three reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, bathroom, good offices with servants' room.

Main electric light and water. Modern drainage. Central heating.

FREEHOLD, WITH POSSESSION, TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION AT AN EARLY DATE.

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S. SCHERFERT, CHARMING 18th-CENT. HOUSE ATTRACTIVELY MODERNISED. In a lovely district, close village. Stone built, mullioned windows, fine timbering. Three reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, larder, scullery, etc. Water, gas, electricity. Large buildings. Garden, orchard, paddock. **4 ACRES. £7,700.** POSSESSION.—CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & HARRISON, COTSWOLD TOWN, FINE GEORGIAN HOUSE, overlooking delightful small square. Ideal for Residence, Antiques, Guest House, etc. Eight bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, water, gas, electricity. Large buildings. Small walled garden. **£2,500. POSSESSION.** CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

E. DEVON. NEAR SMALL TOWN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, situated with 4 acres of old grounds, paddocks and water. Large house, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception, 7-8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. All main services. Garage and stable. Cottage. **POSSESSION. £7,000.** CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

NEAR BURFORD (PRINCIPAL OF THE COTSWOLDS). STONE-BUILT HOUSE, recently modernised, with south views. Three good reception, 6 bedrooms, large bathroom (would make two). Main electricity. "A" gas. Central heating. Water, gas, electricity. **£10,000.** More buildings, a cottage (let), and some land (about 5 acres) available.—CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

WITNEY, 22 ACRES PLEASANT COUNTRY RESIDENCE in hill district. Three reception, bathroom, 6-7 bedrooms. Electric light. Central heating. Main water, drainage and sewage. Cottage. Large garden. **£10,000 OR OFFER.** CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

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Attractive Residence, pretty Georgian, 1½ miles from A406, Bascote Lane, in parklike surroundings.



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Attractive Old-World Cottage, completely modernised, cream washed, half timbered. Four bedrooms, modern bathroom, 3 reception rooms, convenient domestic offices.

All C.O.'s services. Double garage.

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Part Queen Anne Farmhouse, converted and modernised. Five bedrooms, modern bathroom, 2 reception rooms and large hall, excellent domestic offices. C.O.'s services.

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Extending to about 3,100 ACRES

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Including Ashbridge Farm 352 acres with Vacant Possession

Garford	490 acres
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In charmingly secluded grounds. About 3 ACRES

Five reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 bath on s

COMPANIES, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER

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Well maintained and in good order

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DEVON. Within easy reach of Sidmouth and a few miles from Exeter. Attractive Georgian Residence, having 4 entertaining and 12 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, garage, stabling and easily maintained grounds of about 5 ACRES. FREEHOLD. £15,000.

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Three bedroomed, 2 bathroom, 5 bedrooms, 4 s. t. rooms. All main services. Delightful
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central heating. Electric light. Garages and outbuildings. Hard tennis court. Kitchen
garden, orchard and paddock. FREEHOLD £6,000. TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South
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GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

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Locality part of Bucks, 24 miles London. 400 ft. up in delightful country.

BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER



with every up-to-date convenience and well planned on two floors only.

Pantry, larder, food store, scullery, white tiled offices. Main services. Complete central heating.

Lounge hall, 8 reception, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Garage and stable. Cottage.

Flinty timbered gables of singular charm, together with natural woodland.

NEARLY 12 ACRES.

For Sale privately or by Auction in June.

Sole Agents: WILSON & CO., 22, Mount Street, W.1.

with every up-to-date convenience and well planned on two floors only.

Pantry, larder, food store, scullery, white tiled offices. Main services. Complete central heating.

Lounge hall, 8 reception, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Garage and stable. Cottage.

Flinty timbered gables of singular charm, together with natural woodland.

NEARLY 12 ACRES.

600 FT. UP. HASLEMERE STATION 1 MILE

Facing south and east with fine views. 1 hour London.

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enjoying perfect seclusion.

Long drive approach with lodge.

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Superbly equipped up-to-date

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Equally suitable for Residence or Institution.

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Central heating. All in splendid order.

Contains large hall, 4 reception rooms, billiards room, 11 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, very fine offices. Lodge and stables. Garage and stabling.

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Adjoining Littlestone-on-Sea Golf Course.

UNIQUE MODERN HOUSE

Four principal bedrooms each with private bathroom attached, 2 staff bedrooms and bathroom, suite of 3 reception rooms, complete domestic offices.

CENTRAL HEATING.



MAIN SERVICES.

GARAGES.

Small range of outbuildings.

Matured grounds and prolific kitchen garden, the whole extending to just over

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TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD £10,000

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Surrey. An ideal home in beautiful rural surroundings with lovely views. Hall, 2 recs., 4 beds, excellent kitchen, 2 baths. Central heating. Garage. Delightful gardens with orchard and 5 acres arable. In all 9 acres.

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IN A QUIET SURREY VILLAGE

Facilitating old Elizabethan style. Fully modernised. Excellent order throughout. Five beds (with bath), 3 recs., 2 baths. Garage for 2, stable, old forge, lovely gardens.

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Bury. Beautiful modern Residence (subject of illustrated article) in this exclusive position. Cloaks, 8 recs., 5 beds. 2 bath. Main services. Central heating. Garage for 2.

FREEHOLD £12,000. Inspected and recommended. S.161

Architect designed modern Residence in excellent order. Hall, 3 reception, 2 recs., 3 beds, bathroom.

Main services, oak floors.

Ample power points.

Lovely terrace garden and productive kitchen garden.

FREEHOLD £8,000

W.306

SOUTH DEVON COAST



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A CHARMING RESIDENCE WITH EXTENSIVE RIVER FRONTRAGE AND PRIVATE PIER

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Constructed of delightful mellowed brick. Six bedrooms, 2 bath, 3 reception, conservatory, sun room, office, drying room. Capacity for garage accommodation. Large house with comfortable sat's room. Househouse, private garden, garage, ample electricity and water supply. Delightful garden with terrace and steps with extensive river frontage. The property is held under a long leasehold for a term of 99 years from March 30, 1922, at a total ground rent of £70 per annum.

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To be held by Messrs. Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, on Thursday, July 21, 1947, at 8 p.m. Auctioneers: Messrs. Light & Falcon, 24, John Street, Bedford Row, London, W.C.1. Legal Agents: Messrs. J. Langley-Taylor & Partners, Fleet Street Office, Auctioneers: Messrs. Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, and at Southampton, Brighton and Worthing.

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Occupying a unique and absolutely secluded position on the outskirts of the pretty and unspoilt village of Burley, away from noise and building development.

TO BE SOLD, THIS CHARMING RESIDENCE

situated on high ground, all the principal rooms having south aspect.

Night bed, dressing room, 3 bath, lounge hall, 3 reception, cloakroom, servants' sitting room, kitchen, sun room, etc. Main electricity, gas and water. Central heating. Two outside garages. Large beautiful gardens and grounds laid out by Miss Fletcher, including a complete formal stone-paved garden, gravel walk and herbaceous borders, lawn, sunken walk, lily pond and rock garden. Large vegetable garden and fruit garden, orchard, paddock. The whole extending to an area of about 6 ACRES. PRICE £15,000 FREEHOLD

Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

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Pleasantly situated near the centre of this famous resort. Within a few minutes' walk of beach.



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Three bedrooms, balcony, bathroom, lounge, sun lounge, and kitchen. Main electricity. Gas & water. Well matured and secluded garden.

PRICE £4,000 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION

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By order of the Mortgagors.

On the Dorset Borders, 8 miles from Lymington. 12 miles from Blandford, 12 miles from Bude.

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COMPRISES

THE VERY ATTRACTIVE MODERATE-SIZED RESIDENCE

magnificently planned, with south aspect, approached by long drive, matured trees and rhododendrons, in the midst of matured grounds and containing: Four reception rooms, sun room, kitchen, sun lounge, 22 bedrooms, and dressing rooms, 3 bath-rooms, servants' hall and excellent domestic offices. Garage. Large garden, including Walled kitchen garden. Pleasure gardens and grounds with 22 acres ornamental lake, park, and well-timbered woods. Extending to an area of about 100 ACRES

Central heating. Electricity. Ample water supply. Up-to-date drainage system.

Particulars, Plan and Conditions of Sale may be obtained of the Solicitors: H. HUNARD HARPER, Esq., 5, New Court, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.2, or of the Auctioneers: Messrs. Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, and at Southampton, Brighton and Worthing.

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Delightful Old-World Freshfield Residence
HIGHER KINGSTON, NEAR DORCHESTER

Modernized and in good order, the Residence situated well off the road and approached by a long drive. Large house, 10 bedrooms, 3 reception, modern offices, 2 sun rooms, conservatory, sunroom, servants' hall, central heating. Wall heating in sun room. Open fireplaces, electric, natural supply available shortly. Ample water supply. Large garden. Garage. Stabling. Outbuildings, etc. Charming matured grounds. Two cottages. Nearly 70 ACRES

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On the coast, about 5 miles east of Brighton. Close direct bus service to Brighton Station

ATTRACTIVE DETACHED MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

Glorious Sea Views

"LONSDALE,"
**LEINHORN ROAD EAST,
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Four bedrooms fitted basins h. and c., sun balcony, luxury bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen, usual offices. Garage. Well-stocked garden.

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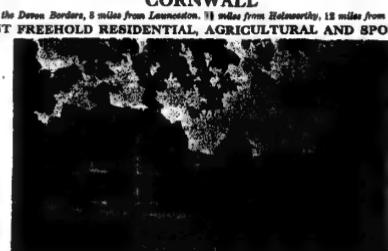
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Three bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen sun lounge, conservatory. Main services. Garage.

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THE COMPACT MIXED FARM

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ALVACOTT FARM

extending to an area of about 50 ACRES
EQUIPPED WITH HOUSE AND FARM BUILDING.

The whole Estate extends to an area of about 507 ACRES

Vacant Possession of the mansion, outbuildings, grounds, gardens and woodlands will be given on completion of the purchase.

To be Sold by Auction as a whole or in 8 lots, at the Royal Hotel, Bideford, Devon, on Tuesday, July 1, 1947, at 2 o'clock precisely.

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FAVOURITE PART OF SUSSEX

c.24

Harrow 3 miles.

MODERN HOUSE, HALF-TIMBERED

In first-class order and condition throughout. Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 12 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, maid's sitting room. Main water and electricity. Partial central heating. Fitted basin in bedrooms. Garage (4), 8 loose boxes, 9 kennels, 2 cottages.

Delightful gardens, hard tennis court, home paddocks. In all about **22 ACRES**

FREEHOLD £15,000

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ADJOINING WALTON HEATH

c.3

Amidst lovely surroundings, near the famous golf course and enjoying splendid distant views. Only about 40 minutes from town.

Charming Freehold Residences

Three reception, 6 beds, 2 bathrooms. Garage. Stabling. Electric light and modern conveniences.

Charming pleasure gardens forming part of the property and extending to about **2½ ACRES**

Riding and hacking facilities.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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c.3

Favourite residential locality, about 3 miles from main line station, with fast service to Town in under half an hour.

REPLICA OF A SMALL TUDOR HOUSE

built of old brick and genuine old oak.

Hall, 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, electric light. Modern conveniences. Garage for 2 cars. Large garden, planted with several shady trees. Also kitchen garden with fruit garden.

IN ALL ABOUT

% OF AN ACRE

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CLAYTON COURT, LISS, HAMPSHIRE

A lovely situation in wooded country. Enjoying superb views. Luxuriously appointed character Residence, completely modernised regardless of cost. Magnificent galleryed hall, sun lounge, 4 reception rooms, 12 bedrooms, (10 with basin b. and c.), 5 bathrooms. Garages for 3 (flat over). Stabling. Three cottages. Range heated glass houses. Main services.

Modern drainage. Central heating.

Charming terraced gardens, and beautifully timbered grounds, arable, and pasture, about **50 ACRES**

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OXTED AND EAST GRINSTEAD
A WELL APPOINTED RESIDENCE

c.4

Hall, 4 reception, large lounge, 8 to 10 bed and dressing, 2 bath. Central heating. Co.'s marks. Garage. Stable with 2 rooms over. Excellent conditions. Wall-timbered grounds, large paddock, intersected by a stream, in all **11½ ACRES**

Recently redecorated throughout.

ONLY £8,500 FREEHOLD IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

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SURREY HILLS

c.4

3½ miles from London. High up commanding beautiful views. Walking distance of station.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

Kitchenette hall, lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6½ bedrooms (2 with basins), playroom, bathroom, excellent offices.

Large garage with store-rooms over. All Co.'s marks. Attractive grounds. Fully-tilled tennis court.

In all **½ ACRE**

67,700 FREEHOLD VACANT POSSESSION

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c.2

Outskirts of village, 3½ miles from station, 5 miles first-class town.

MODERNISED MILL HOUSE

with about ½ mile of coarse fishing, in river and mill race. Three reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maid's sitting room. Main water and electricity. Garage 2. Farm outbuildings.

Secondary Residence of 8 rooms and bathroom, also with garage.

Delightful gardens and grounds, prolific kitchen garden. Water meadows and fields. In all about **50 ACRES**

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On two floors only.



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House, preferably Georgian, with modern

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CI No. 2629

12183
JUNE 6, 1947



Harisp

MISS LAVINIA LESLIE

Miss Lavinia Leslie, the daughter of Colonel and Mrs. John Leslie, of Brancaster, Norfolk, is to be married on June 14 to Major the Earl of RockSavage, elder son of the Marquess of Cholmondeley

COUNTRY LIFE

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COVENT GARDEN
W.C.2.Telegrams, Country Life, London
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The Editor reminds correspondents that communications requiring a reply must be accompanied by the requisite postage stamps. MSS. will not be returned unless this condition is complied with.

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THE GREATER LONDON PLAN

The Ministry of Town and Country Planning have now given us a more detailed idea of the way in which our central planners propose, with the powers they have acquired or are acquiring, to mould the reconstruction and future development of London and a large part of the Home Counties. The memorandum which they have issued has as its foundation the recommendations for layout of the region, for decentralisation of population and industry and for their redistribution made in Sir Patrick Abercrombie's well-known Report. That Report has had three years of close examination by Government departments, local authorities and all kinds of technical experts, and we now have the Ministry's reaction to what authorities and experts think. Matters on which there is general agreement—such, incidentally, as that it will take a good deal longer than the originally suggested ten years to carry out the main projects of the Abercrombie Plan—are not so important at the moment as those "next steps" which are already ripe for administrative handling. Which among those outside areas suggested for the siting of New Towns are to be chosen? What towns on or near the circumference of the Green Belt should be encouraged to expand and how far? What should, if any, of "infiltration" into the Green Belt should be allowed?

To these questions Mr. Silkin gives us his considered answer. As far as the New Towns on the Green Belt border are concerned, Stevenage, Hemel Hempstead, Harlow and Three Bridges have already been "designated." The site at Meopham and that in the Pitsborough-Laindon area are still being considered. Sites suggested by Sir Patrick Abercrombie at Stapleford, Ongar, Margaretting, Crowhurst, Holmwood and White Waltham have been definitely turned down, and these decisions seem sound. Serious planning problems would obviously result from the development of a large new Stapleford stretching to within a mile of the fringes of Hertford. For the same reason, Margaretting is much too close to Chelmsford to live a separate life once its development began. Crowhurst is even less advisable as the site of a New Town, seeing that it would be only a few miles from another New Town at Three Bridges. Ongar has been turned down largely on account of its present inadequate railway provision, though the agricultural value of the area is as good a reason as any, and this applies also to White Waltham, where a New Town development would also interfere with the airfield. Holmwood alone—and very properly—has been rejected largely for amenity reasons.

The two remaining candidates for New Township are Meopham and Laindon-Pitsborough. Both of them nominations which have wider implications than the others. Meopham's selection so near to London is little short of a proposal for dormitory development within the Green Belt. On this subject Mr. Silkin is adamant in theory but inclined to be yielding in practice. His present verdict is that he is impressed with the need for providing an outlet for South London's congestion, and is still considering the need for proposing a New Town site in Kent. He has not so far accepted the proposal that an additional population of 167,000 should be dispersed into the Green Belt ring. On the other hand he is actively discussing with existing towns on the edge and within the limits of that belt very considerable expansions of population. A great deal will clearly depend on how far the extensions can be made industrially self-supporting—with new or transferred industries—and how far they will simply be used as larger dormitories for Londoners. The first and most desirable alternative is unfortunately a long-term proposition compared with the second.

COUNTRY LIFE—JUNE 6, 1947

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"ONE FOR SORROW, TWO FOR JOY"

*HOPPITY-HOP on the old stone wall,
A harlequin flash and he's over the brook—
A single magpie—turn your head,
Don't look!*

*I've ery bird has a mate in spring . . .
I knew it! And scarcely a yard apart!
After him, lady—and, quick, your lips
On mine, sweetheart!*

MARY HOLDEN.

THE CITY OF YORK

YORK, for all its visible age and beauty, gives a vivid impression of being the living capital of the North, in civilisation and sentiment if not in material productiveness. This impression was distinctly more marked on a recent visit as compared with twenty-five years ago, though it would be difficult to assign specific reasons. The war did some serious damage, but there is everywhere evidence of increasing prosperity coupled with keener appreciation of the city's unique character and traditions. The formation of the York Civic Trust last year was a sign of this welcome development, and to-morrow a joint conference opens convened by the Trust and the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. The purpose is to focus public attention and effort on the varied legacy of beauty within the county and city: a subject as wide as the three Ridings, and aptly illustrated by York's own awakening civic consciousness. During the discussion it will be strange if something is not said of the project for establishing a university in York. The beauty and history of the northern capital make it a peculiarly appropriate setting for one of the new universities that widened education demands, particularly if it specialised in the civic arts rather than the technical sciences. And in the King's Manor building the old administrative seat of the Council of the North—there exists admirably suited premises for a foundation that would be nourished by, and nourish, York's perennial youth.

FEWER LIVESTOCK

IT is deplorable but not altogether surprising that the latest census of livestock numbers taken by the Ministry of Agriculture shows an all-round reduction in the past twelve months. Apart from the milking cows which show a slight increase, the cattle total in England and Wales is down by 86,000; there are 600,000 fewer ewes and 300,000 fewer pigs. Many sheep perished in the blizzards, but the drop in the numbers of breeding sows is particularly serious at a time when the consumer in this country has to go short of fats. The pig is by far the quickest and most economical producer of fat and meat, and Britain should by now be restoring her pig numbers to give consumers a better diet. The cut in feeding-stuff rations in Britain owing to our failure to buy maize and other grains abroad will thus unhappily be felt by families all through the land next winter. The egg ration, meagre as it has been, will also suffer through the fall of over 2,000,000 in our poultry num-

bers. Poultry farmers have some bitter reflections when they hear of table poultry and eggs being sent here by Continental countries which seem somehow to have increased from the world's harvests more feeding-stuff than they need to supply the requirements of their own consumers. We must in Britain start to take seriously the expansion of our livestock and give high priority to the supply of feeding-stuff, both home-grown and imported.

TIED COTTAGES AGAIN

IT seems a little ironical to find Mr. Aneurin Bevan trying so hard to convince the urban-minded of his Party that there is considerable difficulty with the tied cottages of agricultural areas and of getting rid of them with a governmental wave of the hand. At Margate his arguments in favour of "a period of patient and tolerant inaction" in this matter were that the lack of accommodation in the countryside, though it was due to the sins and shortcomings of previous Governments, did actually exist and was agriculturally important. On the other hand, the provision of rural accommodation was going steadily ahead under the direction of the Ministry of Health, and in a short time it would be quite feasible to take steps which were difficult now. Though he went so far as to point out that the tied cottage was not unknown either to miners, railwaymen or Prime Ministers, he did not use certain more knowledgeable and commonplace reasons—with which his colleague the Minister of Agriculture could have supplied him—why the system is inevitable in many farming circumstances, particularly where livestock are the chief source of concern and cannot be left unattended or to unskilled ministrations.

A NEW DEAL

THE distinguished signatories—including Sir Patrick Abercrombie, Mr. Noel Coward, and Mr. Nathaniel Gubbins—of a letter in *The Times* protesting against the reconstruction of a part of the old Cinque port of Deal will presumably be classed in "progressive" quarters with the people who object to the Southwark Power Station, described by one of the Government's supporters as "imbued with old ideas and chiefly representative of the party opposite." On the excuse that some war damage occurred at Deal, a much larger area in which hardly a house is later than the Nelson period has been scheduled for demolition and reconstruction. A similar instance is afforded at Dover where the repair and reconstruction as flats of the Regency Terraces fronting the harbour was recently turned down in favour of replanning, largely on political grounds. It is difficult not to suspect that the wholly unconvincing and unappreciative proposal at Deal is promoted by a simplified notion of turning the historic part of the town into a popular modern holiday resort. Let Deal by all means move with the times, but not by destroying its chief claim to notice.

LLOYD OSBOURNE

TREASURE ISLAND has probably given as much unalloyed delight to boys of all ages as any book that ever was written. It was dedicated to "S.L.O.", an American gentleman, in accordance with whose classic taste the following narrative has been designed." That American gentleman, then a small boy, was Mr. Lloyd Osborne. Stevenson's stepson, who has just died at the age of 79, and, if only on that account, deserves to be gratefully remembered. But there is more cause for gratitude in that, when scarcely grown up, he undoubtedly wrote the whole of the first draft of *The Wrong Box*, a delicious piece of folly which has afforded the intensest joy of quotation to many distinguished devotees. It is impossible not to believe that Stevenson's "finishing touches" added very greatly to it. Much of Michael Finsbury and Uncle Joseph must surely be Stevenson alone: the exact details of such a collaboration cannot be known, but Lloyd Osborne's original share in that most ingenious plot must not be forgotten. Both *The Wrecker* and *The Ebb Tide* also owe more than a little to him, though we now know that Jim Pinkerton, that superb creation, was pure Stevenson.

The two remaining candidates for New Township are Meopham and Laindon-Pitsborough.



Frank Rodgers

FISHING FOR TROUT IN DOVEDALE, DERBYSHIRE

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

A CORRESPONDENT is puzzled by the behaviour of a pair of chaffinches in her garden which from time to time "hurl themselves" against a large window in the toolshed. Since it appeared that they wished to enter the shed, possibly with the idea of building a nest there, the door was left open for them, but they have ignored this means of ingress and still endeavour to crash through the window. The popular belief concerning this behaviour is that the bird sees a reflection of itself in the glass and tries to drive the apparition off, but my experience causes me to think that there are quite a number of reasons for this, and that the "other bird" explanation is the least likely.

WHEN a robin, a blue tit or a great tit that is a member of the breakfast-table club comes and taps at the window, I think this is obviously on a par with pushing the bell button for the waiter. It is a hint to the occupants of the room that the table is bare, and that food is required immediately. All these birds know quite well that glass causes reflections which are not to be taken seriously, and also that it is impossible to fly through it. Incidentally, one of our regular blue tits *forgot* this momentarily during the cold spell this winter and leaving the table in a huff owing to overcrowding at the rush hour, crashed against the glass with such force that it lay on its back unconscious for over ten minutes.

When a blackbird consistently pecks savagely at a particular spot in one window pane I think he is taken in by his reflection in the glass, and believes that he is face to face with that particularly objectionable fellow who sometimes dares to trespass on his private domain on the lawn—that aggressive blackbird who lives

at the other end of the shrubbery and with whom he has a political argument every morning and evening. I always like to imagine that the blackbird is making an important political speech, for he establishes one convincing point after another, and the only ways in which he seems to differ from a present-day politician is that he never repeats himself and has, moreover, a far pleasanter accent.

So far as the chaffinches mentioned by my correspondent are concerned, I should imagine that, at certain periods of the day and in certain lights, the window reflects a most entrancing view of the garden in front, and that this deceives the birds as the mirage of trees and lakes deceives the thirsty wanderer in the desert. Actually, of course, mirages are not always of palm trees round a shining lake, for in the thirstiest part of the Libyan Desert I could in certain lights always see something exactly like the façade of the Regina Hotel in Alexandria, where there was an excellent cocktail bar. The mirage garden that the chaffinches see has a far more attractive apple tree in the foreground than anything that exists in reality, and the newly sprouted line of cabbage plants in the mirrored vegetable plot appears to be much more luscious than that which is actually growing in real earth.

IN these Notes some years ago I commented on some kingfishers that were constantly crashing against the dining-room windows of a house that stood close to a river in Ireland. Since this bird always travels with the acceler-

tor well jammed down, these accidents were invariably fatal and, seeing that the last thing one wishes to see in this drab world is a dead kingfisher, the owner of the house took a serious view of the situation. Eventually it transpired that the mirror of a big Victorian sideboard opposite the window was responsible, and that with a setting sun it reflected a vista of a length of wondrous minnow waters which the kingfishers felt they must explore. When the sideboard was removed to the opposite end of the room the kingfishers ceased to commit suicide.

ONE bright spot in the general increase in the ranks of officialdom is that we stand to be provided with an increasing number of amiable embezzlers by official stupidity and "red tape." For example, a large house was requisitioned in 1940 by the Royal Air Force to serve as a hotel for a number of their W.A.A.F.s who were employed on a near-by aerodrome. This house had been recently released, and the owner immediately applied for a permit from the local authorities to repair the wear and tear of five years of occupation, and two years of unoccupation during the period of *indeliction before release*.

An inspector was sent by the District Council to view the premises for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of the necessary repairs, and he was shocked to find work already in progress without a permit. The indignant authorities were about to institute proceedings against the erring landlord for flouting the law in this disgraceful manner when it was discovered that the local Royal Air Force were carrying out the work. They had just received the order issued in 1940 for the re-decoration of the premises to fit them for the W.A.A.F.s seven years ago!

THE ANTIQUE DEALERS' FAIR

By J. DE SERRE

AT the Antique Dealers' Fair, held again after the harsh interregnum of the war, in the Great Room of Grosvenor House, W., nearly a century of British firms are represented, a number which is evidence of its wide compass. As in previous fairs, a date limit is fixed for the exhibits, which must have been made before 1830, the last year of George IV's reign. There is therefore no attempt to show the work of the Victorian age, or to raise the issue of Victorian art. This year's assemblage of furniture, silver, ceramics and other decorative objects is no less impressive than in former years and represents almost every kind of antique work which is of interest to collectors to-day. The bulk of the exhibits will be, naturally, English furniture.

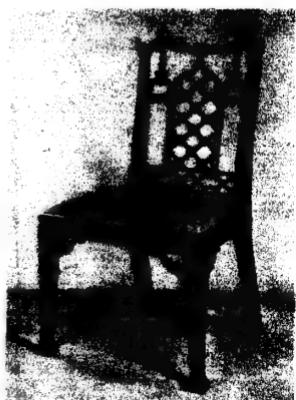
Among decorative furniture of the late 17th century the cabinet held pride of place. The two chief varieties at this period were the box-like structure enclosing drawers, and decorated with oriental lacquer or English japanning, and the case of drawers of Western manufacture, often veneered with fine and figured woods, and mounted on a wooden stand. Instances of this latter type are two cabinets veneered with kingwood resting on stands with spiral supports of the same wood. These cabinets are of plain design, but the design of the cupboard doors is varied, as in one (Fig. 4) the wysteria pieces are arranged in a large radiating rosette. In the same collection is a cabinet following Chinese precedent in the interior fittings, and decorated with black japan (a brilliant version of Chinese lacquer) with oriental figures as subjects. The carved and gilt stand is supported by human demi-figures linked by acanthus scrolls. Also decorated in black japan is a cabinet from John Bell, of Aberdeen, dating from the last years of Charles II's reign. The japanned detail of

flowers, trees and Chinese buildings is carried out in a variety of colours. The stand, which is silvered, rests upon baluster feet connected by a pierced and carved apron.

During the early 18th century the form of the bureau bookcase and bureau cabinet became standardised, and the number of fine existing examples is evidence that a large demand was adequately met by English cabinetmakers. In a good example of the bureau bookcase (at Messrs. Gregory), the walnut veneer is rich in colour and well-matched upon the desk and drawer fronts, and the cupboard doors are mounted with bevelled mirror-plates.

So great was the demand for these convenient pieces that they were copied by Chinese craftsmen in native woods. In the Chinese bureau bookcase (Fig. 5) the proportions are close to the English original, but the foliate finial between the two domes of the cresting, and the decoration of the minor plates with Chinese "back painting" in bright colours indicate its origin. This piece is made of padouk, a tough and durable Burmese wood which must have been very troublesome to the carver.

During the last years of the 17th and those of the early 18th centuries, furniture decorated in gesso and gilt was made for a number of great houses, and the original ownership can sometimes be traced by the armorial bearings and cypher carved on the piece. The gilt gesso side table, (which is exhibited by Phillips, of Hitchin), carved on the apron with the crest and coronet of Richard, Lord Cobham, and on the top with his cypher, is one of a pair formerly at the great Buckinghamshire House, Stowe. As Richard Temple was created Lord Cobham in 1714 and a viscount in 1718, the table can be dated within four years. Its pair has been



1.—MAHOGANY CHAIR IN THE GOTHIC TASTE, CIRCA 1760. FROM LEONARD KNIGHT

attributed on stylistic grounds to the Royal cabinet-maker, James Moore, whose authenticated works are distinguished by technical excellence and originality of design.

The age of mahogany is well represented, and among the pieces shown is a four-post bedstead in which full advantage is taken of that timber, which allows great freedom and precision in carving (Fig. 2). The cornice and the cresting of the head board are pierced and carved with foliate scroll-work, and the four reeded posts are enriched with spiral trails of flowers—a treatment more than once illustrated in Chippendale's designs for beds and bedposts in the *Director*. The freedom and spirit of the carving of the cornice is also characteristic of the *Director* designs.

From another collection (Phillips, of Hitchin) is a set of twelve chairs from Kippax Park with undulating uprights and perforated splat, closely similar to a set at Nostell Priory dating from about 1745. These chairs have the identical backs and aprons to the seat rails, but the legs have the French scroll foot of the *Director* period instead of the claw and ball terminatives of the Nostell set, a finish which matches the delicate lines of the carved back. It is significant that Kippax Park and Nostell Priory (where accounts of Thomas Chippendale exist) are in Yorkshire. In this period there is a great range and fertility in the design of seat-furniture. The example (Fig. 1) is one of a set of twelve chairs of highly original design, in a modified Gothic taste. The back is divided into three sections, of which the centre is filled in with a trellis, and the seat rail is carved with an arcade. At Mallett's, an armchair in which the frames are carved with scaling, which is part of a large set made for a house in Scotland, including two settees and twenty-four chairs.

Dating from the period of the Classical revival is an armchair with its openwork splat resembling a classical type (Hotspur), an innovation assigned to the architect Robert Adam. Dating from this classic period is a dressing commode (Fig. 3) with a drawer fitted with a mirror, boxes and compartments, and the exterior japanned black and decorated in gold with Chinese scenes on the top and sides and frieze, and on the two lower drawer fronts with sprays of flowers.

As in the case of furniture, the majority of silver work exhibited dates from the fertile late Stuart and Georgian periods. An outstanding example of the late Stuart age is the tankard (1671) bearing the maker's mark I.H. and resting on three feet chased as eagles. The lid, which has an eagle as thumb-piece, is surrounded by an applied corded band, and a similar corded band is carried round the base. The cylindrical barrel is finely engraved with Chinese figures and buildings, a fashion which arose towards the end of Charles II's reign. This tankard (the Doddington tankard, formerly in Sir John



2.—MAHOGANY FOUR-POST BED. MIDDLE 18TH CENTURY. FROM M. HARRIS AND SONS

Nokes's collection) is an early instance of these engraved Chinese decorations (Fig. 9).

In the same collection is an example of caged work, a rare style of treatment in fashion for a short time during Charles II's reign, when the background of the outer covering or case was enameled. In a two-handled cup and cover of this work, the silver gilt cylindrical body is ornamented with an outer covering of embossed and chased acanthus foliage, in which two birds are represented. The cover, which is also treated in the same style, has a bird as finial. The cup and cover, which are undated, bear the maker's mark R.C.

Also in this collection is a pair of tazzas (1683), of which the octagonal tops are engraved in the Chinese taste with Chinese figures and trees. Another example of late Stuart engraved ornament is to be seen in the tazza (Fig. 8) in which the top is decorated with a medallion representing a gallant, hat in hand, meeting a lady. The surrounding border of flowers and foliage is enlivened by birds and amorini. The tazza, which dates from James II's reign, bears the maker's mark, I.S., in monogram. In this collection also is a porringer (1681) engraved with palm trees, foliage and birds in the Chinese taste. It bears the London hall-mark for 1681, but a later date (1692) and initials are pricked on the body.

Two characteristic specimens of the work of Paul de Lamerie are exhibited by Messrs. S. J. Phillips; one is a beautifully proportioned cup and cover of the early Georgian period, in which the lower part of the body is ornamented with applied vertical straps on a matted ground. The domed cover is similarly ornamented with straps on a matted ground. The kettle and stand by de Lamerie (1744) shows the full but not overwhelming Rococo treatment in the spreading band of floral and scroll ornament on the upper part of the body and in the curved spout. The tripod stand is supported on scroll-formed feet linked by festoons of flowers.

The examples of Chinese art exhibited are representative, ranging in date from excavated

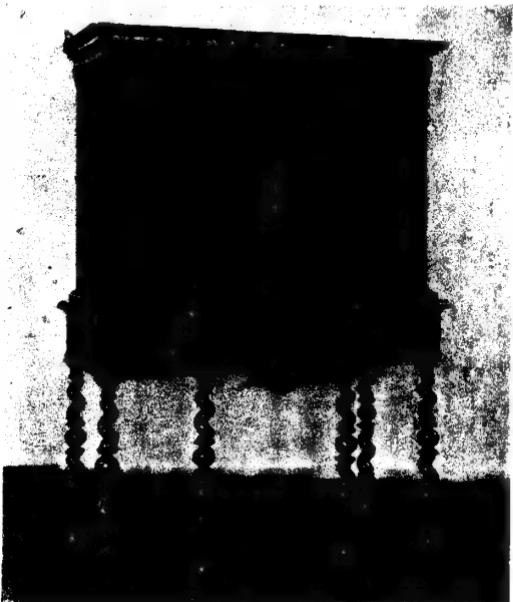


3.—JAPANNED DRESSING COMMODE IN THE FRENCH TASTE. CIRCA 1770. FROM HOTSPUR

tomb figures of the Wei and T'ang periods, to the final elegance of the late 18th century, where the porcelain and jade was remarkable for its finished technique and brilliant accomplishment.

There are two large dishes of the K'ang Hsi period decorated in brilliant enamel colours with scenes from early Chinese history. In one

the scene is the final rout by the Imperial troops of the forces of Wang Mang, outside the city of K'un-yang. According to the Chinese account, Wang Meng had various animals driven in front of his army in the interest of "frightfulness," and some of these (including a tiger) are shown on the cloud form in the foreground. The forces



4.—CABINET VENEERED WITH KINGWOOD. LATE 17TH CENTURY. FROM MALLETT. (Right) 5.—BUREAU BOOKCASE OF PADOUK, MADE IN CHINA FOR THE EUROPEAN MARKET. MID-18TH CENTURY. FROM BLAIRMAN





6.—DISH DECORATED IN ENAMEL COLOURS. K'ANG HSI PERIOD. FROM SPINK AND SON. (Right) 7.—JAR (CHIA CHING) OF 1522-66. FROM JOHN SPARKS

of the Emperor Liu Hsü, founder of the later Han dynasty, are massed to the left of the scene and issue from an archway or city gate, above which is an inscription, "city wall of K'un Yang." The Emperor is shown above the battle-mended city gate, and on a banner held by an attendant is the word "Restoration," the motto of the Emperor. Other inscriptions give the names of two of the Emperor's most famous generals. In a second dish the scene represented is an interior with tables grouped on a dais.

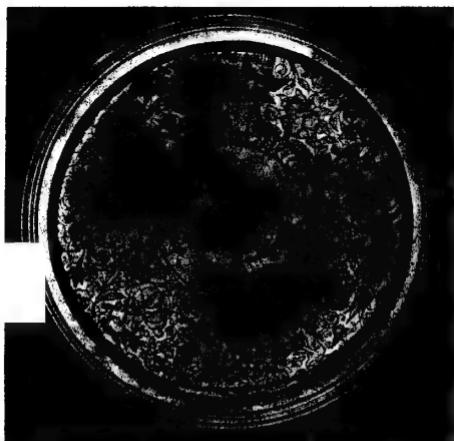
The centre of interest is the feast of the General Wu Yün (who dates from the 5th century B.C.) at an assembly at the Royal Palace. It was proposed to decide by competition which of those present was the strongest and most learned, the test of such competence being the composition of a sentence upon a

fixed theme, and the writing of this while holding up a metal brazier weighing one thousand pounds. Wu Yün is shown carrying out his double task before an admiring audience (Fig. 6). In the same collection is a group of large vases of the same period, decorated in brilliant enamel colours. Of the Ming dynasty there is a large ovoid porcelain vase, decorated in colours with fishes and waterplants, bearing the date of Wan Li (1573-1619) on the small panel at the mouth.

Among the excavated tomb figures (from Bluetts) is a seated figure of a lady wearing a robe with a girdle, dating from the Wei dynasty. She wears a double-winged headdress, and on her raised right arm a small bird is perched. This figure is interesting as showing a well-preserved pattern on the dress. At John Sparks is a standing horse of the T'ang period, overlaid

with a brownish glaze, except for the saddle (at present unglazed, but showing traces of red pigment) and the green-glazed saddlecloth. As in the finer models of horses, the joints are well marked, and the anatomical details carefully executed. In the same collection is a large jar and cover (Fig. 7) decorated in underglaze blue and enamel colours with fishes, lotus and water weeds. The cover is similarly decorated. The jar, which bears the mark of Chia Ching, was shown in the Chinese exhibition at Burlington House.

In the same collection are a porcelain vase of the K'ang Hsi period, decorated with dragons and clouds under a pale celadon glaze, and a pair of pottery ridge tiles, in the form of a horse, overlaid with yellow glaze on a green-glazed base. The Fair opens on Wednesday, June 11.



8.—THE TOP OF A TAZZA OF 1687. FROM THE GOLDSMITHS AND SILVERSMITHS CO. (R., 9.) 9.—TANKARD OF 1671. FROM S. J. PHILLIPS



PROSPECTS OF ETON *—* By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

OWING to circumstances, the loan exhibition of pictures opened at Eton on the Fourth of June in honour of the 500th anniversary of the College's foundation in 1441 has missed the quincentenary by six years. But it hits off exactly the centenary of an event with which many of the pictures are directly connected: the abolition of Eton's most curious and spectacular "folk-play," Montem. Nearly half of the more outstanding pictures assembled in the School Hall represent aspects of that traditional pageant, the immediate cause for the ending of which was the construction of the Great Western Railway.

What its origin was has never been wholly explained, so far as I know, but Montem was firmly established by 1561, when it took place annually in January and consisted in an orderly procession to a small eminence the neighbourhood of Slough, where a kind of scholarly carnival was held, Latin verses recited and Latin jokes made, with already marked reference to salt. The hill became known as Salt Hill, and in the 18th century the custom of proceedings had become the exactation of toll from all passers-by on the part of gaily costumed Etonians in return for a pinch of salt. Two paintings in the collection attributed to William Peters, and others by Livesey, are portraits of Saltbearers of that period, described as dressed in white with a handkerchief of salt. The festivity was highly patronised—there is a story of King William III being held up for salt-money, and George III and his family were regular spectators, as were his successors till Queen Victoria, who was strongly opposed to its cessation.

The later Montems, held every third year on the Tuesday of Whitsun week used to collect at least £1,000 which went to the Captain of Montem, the senior colleger, after defraying expenses. These had become very large, since the traditional quasi-military order of the procession *ad montem* had by then developed into a fancy-dress carnival with several bands in attendance, and the consumption of much refreshment. To clean up this aspect of what



THE THAMES AT ETON. BY J. M. W. TURNER. FROM LORD LECONFIELD

was beginning to degenerate into licence, the Montem of 1841 concluded with a parade to "absence" on Fellows' Eyot at 3.30, to which the Queen came in the State Barge. This is the episode depicted in the painting by W. Parrott (1813-69), notable as representing one of the rare occasions when that vessel has been seen, at Eton or anywhere else. A pair of Montem scenes—the assembly in Weston's Yard, and the arrival at Salt Hill—by C. Turner, 1820, is interesting for having the names of the principal participants noted; and of the two pairs by William Evans, one, of the Montem of 1841, is the original of the well-known engraving, and portrays admirably the height of pageantry attained in the last Montems. It would be interesting to know whether Evans, who was the drawing master at Eton (as others of the family continued to be) produced these pictures in premonition of the event's termination. After 1847 much of its glamour

was transferred to the Fourth of June festivity.

But the paintings are very far from being confined to this most picturesque of Eton scenes. Eton has always attracted landscape artists, besides, in the leaving portraits customarily presented to the Provost in the 18th century by the more promising boys, several notable portrait painters. A selection of these is also exhibited. As the selectors have not been pedantic about the College featuring in every picture, a group of grand Turner sketches of the river between Eton and Windsor, from the Tate Gallery, is included; and Lord Leconfield has lent one of the famous Petworth Turners—never before seen outside the house—of Eton itself. Another enchanting Turner water-colour, also showing the College buildings, which had disappeared for a century, comes from Bowood.

Turner, though not usually connected in one's mind with Eton, was the perfect painter of the place viewed as an incident in the scenery of the Thames valley. Another

artist who often drew there was Paul Sandby, though it has been possible to obtain only one of the half a dozen Eton subjects by him exhibited in 1891. Canaletto's version, brilliant as a picture, always upsets me by its flagrantly inaccurate rendering of the Chapel. But one of John Varley's rare oil paintings, of the buildings from over the river in the dusk, is a notable discovery. So, too, is the much-treasured observed bird's-eye view by Jan Griffier, about 1690, also from Petworth. This is one of the earliest known pictures of Eton, the earliest being the early 17th-century painting recently discovered.

There are many other interesting and delightful things recalling "the place and its traditions." The selectors took these terms of reference sufficiently widely to include Reynolds's sketch of young Charles James Fox with Lady Susan Lennox and Lady Susan Strangways, of which the big picture was at Holland House, because Fox was an Old Etonian. Equally the exhibition as a whole, including the historic College silver, MSS. and books, attains a standard to appeal to all, whether or not they share Fox's qualification.



AFTER MONTEM, 1841, WITH STATE BARGE. BY W. PARROTT. FROM LORD FAIRHAVEN

AT THE PEREGRINE FALCON'S EYRIE

Written and Illustrated by ARTHUR BROOK

Of all British birds, my favourite is the noble peregrine. To see one chase and strike a pigeon, drive buzzard or raven from the vicinity of its eyrie, or dash headlong into a company of jackdaws gives a thrill not soon forgotten. The cheeky jackdaw will, however, often nest quite near the abode of a peregrine. Last year a pair of jackdaws had their nest within two yards of a peregrine's eyrie that I was photographing.

The peregrine makes no nest, but lays its eggs on a ledge of rock, or in an old nest of the raven. It does not often lay in a buzzard's old nest, since the latter seldom nests in sites suitable to it. From two to four eggs are generally laid. The latter number is fairly common; five are rare. I have, however, seen a few clutches of five, in a cabinet, all taken on the Welsh coast. On April 11, 1935, a collector robbed a peregrine's eyrie of three eggs; six days later she had laid two more in a nearby site, and another collector found both lots of eggs; they would probably have been claimed as a five!

My first attempt at photographing the peregrine, in 1924, gave me the impression that it was a very difficult bird. The hide was the last word in camouflage, and so forth. There were two young in this eyrie—a raven's old nest. Two companions fixed me in the hide, but the peregrines would have none of it. The falcon kept flying past the hide, screaming incessantly, until my companions returned and released me.

In 1926 I made another attempt to photograph the peregrine, at a difficult site. There were three eggs in this eyrie—on a broad ledge of rock. The hide we built was not so good as regards camouflage, but it was more comfortable than that of 1924. This peregrine was a most confiding bird, returning to her eggs within five minutes of my friend's departing, and not leaving them again until he returned.

In May, 1936, accompanied by a friend, Mr. Harold Platt, I visited the scene of the 1924 failure. A pair of peregrines were in residence, and we spent some time in discovering the eyrie, a ravens' old nest. This was not in the same spot as that of 1924, but in a more difficult situation—quite a nasty place, in fact. It held three eggs on the point of hatching. Platt made light of this spot, and we built the hide on a projecting rock, which did not look safe to me, hanging as

it did over a practically sheer drop of nearly 100 feet, with a very steep incline for another 200 feet or so. When I suggested the rock did not look safe, my friend merely smiled and proceeded to jump up and down upon it (he had no rope), and it moved with his actions. During the following winter that rock fell away into space!

For the hide a framework of ash sticks was made and covered with pieces of old sacking, then heather, mountain ash branches and any natural material we could gather. On our next visit, a week later, the eggs had hatched. We tossed a coin, and the first session falling to me, I fixed the camera.

Platt departed meanwhile, but as the young were small we agreed that he should return in a short while in case the peregrines took exception to my presence. He had not gone many yards from the hide when I was much surprised and delighted at seeing the falcon alight on the side of the nest. She made a most bold picture standing there, and I secured a photograph, afterwards which she shuffled up to the young ones and settled herself upon them.

I could not help speculating upon the different behaviour of this falcon from that of the 1924 bird. Peregrines pair for life, but one, or both, of the pair may have died during the twelve years.

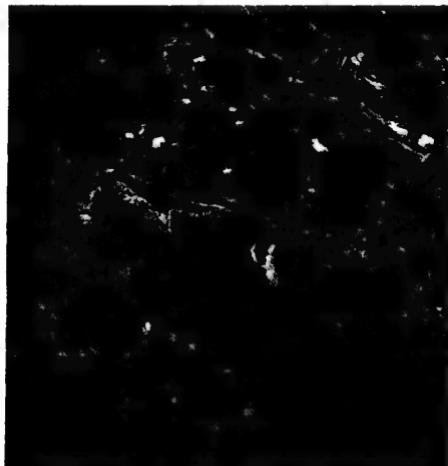
Platt had not seen our bird return to the nest, so he came up to the back of the hide as arranged and asked me how the land lay. I answered, "Look over the back of the hide at the nest." He did so and had somewhat of a surprise, for there was the falcon quietly brooding. She took no notice of our talking, and he went away again without disturbing her. When the time came for Platt to take his place in the hide, we changed over without the bird leaving the nest. Our next visit took place a fortnight later. The falcon did not brood her young at



1.—A PEREGRINE FALCON AT HER EYRIE ON A BROAD LEDGE OF ROCK

all on this occasion, but spent most of her time, in the intervals between feeding, perched on a rock not far from the nest where we photographed her (Fig. 5). These young peregrines, I am glad to say, were reared in safety.

On April 18, 1946, I looked up one of my favourite peregrine sites. The remains of several kills proved them to be in residence. I lay down in the heather, hoping the tiercel would come to feed his mate. After waiting for nearly an hour I heard his cry and saw him, with the aid of binoculars, alight on a rock half-way up the cliff face, where he continued to call. He had prey, which appeared to be a pigeon, with him. Almost at once his mate joined him, took the prey and



2.—"NEVER HAVE I SEEN A Tamer Bird": THE FALCON INCUBATING



3.—THE SITTING FALCON GREETS THE TIERCEL AS HE ARRIVES AT THE EYRIE



4.—A YOUNG PEGREGINE FALCON IN DOWN BEING FED AT AN ERYIE IN A RAVEN'S OLD NEST



5.—AFTER FEEDING HER YOUNG THE FALCON SETTLES ON A CONVENIENT LEDGE

made a meal lasting some 15 minutes. When she had finished she flew back to the nesting ledge, which proved to be the same as in the previous year. I stayed for some time watching her turning the three eggs and changing her position on them. At about 2 p.m. I again heard the tiercel and saw him alight on the nesting ledge in front of the falcon.

The eryie was in by no means an ideal site for photography; the only possible place on which to build the hide was not far enough out from the cliff and the view-point was too high; moreover, there was a sheer drop beneath. However, I decided to have a shot at it, and the following day two friends helped me to build a hide. Four wooden corner posts with thin metal rods bolted to them comprised the framework. This we covered with old sacking, and then wired some more or less rusting wire-netting interlaced with heather over it. We constructed this hide some distance from the eryie and carried it bodily to the rock. Fixing it in position was no mean task, and we anchored it with two iron rods and wire rope.

Over the whole structure we fixed a camouflage net, and, well satisfied with our task, retired to the shelter of a rock about 200 yards away and watched through glasses. We had barely taken up our positions when the falcon appeared from out of the blue. She flew backwards and forwards in front of the eryie about half a dozen times, then swept up to a rock on the skyline. Here she remained for about five minutes, then set off in a curve, flew straight away from the cliff, turned suddenly and glided on to the nesting ledge, where we could see her shuffle forward to the eggs and settle down.

Soon after nine o'clock on the following morning we were again at the eryie—this time with camera and equipment. There were now four eggs in the nest, another having been laid since the previous day. We had screwed a bracket on to the outer front post of the hide to take the camera, which I lost no time in fixing. My two friends wished me success and went away.

They could not have been more than 100 yards from the hide when

I noticed a shadow at the back of the eryie (an overhanging rock prevented me having a full view of the nesting ledge) and the falcon came creeping up to the eggs. Never had I seen a bird more tame than she was. Not the slightest trace of any sound of warning from the bird did she take. It would have been possible to photograph her from any kind of hide; but I did not consider it a waste of time taking so much trouble in building the one we did; it is always best to be on the careful side.

From time to time the bird changed her position on the eggs. At 2 p.m. I heard the tiercel calling; the falcon became more alert, rose from the eggs, and flew to join him. She was away only a little more than five minutes.



6.—ON THE ALERT: THE FALCON GAZES OUT FROM HER ERYIE

At 2.12 p.m. he called again, but it was obvious from her attitude that she did not intend to leave, and I anticipated a picture of the pair. Three minutes later he alighted on the ledge in front of her, and the coveted picture was taken (Fig. 3). I was about making the long two hundred yards with me to the man's home when we climbed down to the hide a jackdaw flew from what we thought was the peregrines' ledge, and we were somewhat startled to see no peregrine sitting. The eggs were there, however, apparently intact and our fears were soon set at rest, for the falcon came screaming up the valley; she had possibly been for a feed. It did not take long to fix the camera, and my friends walked off. They were not many yards away and talking loudly when the bird came back to her eyrie.

I had about spent 20 minutes watching the falcon when a jackdaw flew past the front of the hide and into a hole in the cliff quite near the peregrine. Evidently the same jackdaw which we thought had designs on the peregrine's eggs.

I suggested that one of my friends, an ardent bird-lover, should take a spell in the hide. He came at the stated time and climbed down the rope. We changed places and talked for a few moments, and then I climbed to the top. During that time the falcon was still there and made no attempt to leave. Unfortunately a collector got that clutch of eggs. They are now mere shells in some cabinet, instead of free wild birds of the air delighting the eyes of many.

Several years ago I was in a hide on the roof of a photographing a raven, when I heard several revolver shots too near to be pleasant. Scrambling out of the hide, I saw two egg collectors, one carrying a rope, beneath me. They were firing the revolver hoping to dislodge a peregrine from her eggs. They did not get the eggs; nor did they stay to argue!

During the war, owing to the deprivations of peregrines among carrier pigeons, a flat was issued for their ranks to be reduced, and a number of pairs nesting on our coasts may have suffered. On the other hand, I know of a not inconsiderable number of peregrines nesting in certain inland parts of Wales, and very few of these suffered any loss.



1—FROM ACROSS THE RIVER BANK HOUSE ON THE NORTH BRINK WITH ITS STABLES TO THE LEFT

BANK HOUSE, WISBECH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE THE HOME OF THE HONOURABLE ALEXANDRINA PECKOVER

This fine Georgian house for the past 150 years the home of the Peckover family has been presented to the National Trust by the present owner. Built in 1722 it was elaborately decorated some thirty years later when in the ownership of the Southwells

By ARTHUR OSWALD

In describing the Branks at Wisbech a week ago we postponed consideration of Bank House for fuller treatment in a separate article. As you walk westward along the river from Wisbech Bridge the Georgian houses lining the North Brink form a continuous though nicely varied row for about two hundred yards when there is a break in the line. Here standing back a little from the established frontage Bank House claims and holds the attention by its independence greater scale and slightly enhanced archi-

tectural distinction. The distinction is only a matter of degree for the house harmonises admirably with its neighbours but one has the impression that its builder wanted to emphasise his social status by living in a rather more important looking building. Its greater consequence is also shown by the separate stable range which runs along the street or rather brink frontage stretches away to the left (Fig 1). Running back and extending behind the houses westward there is a large garden the

grounds comprising some fifty acres in all. Bank House is said to have been built in 1722 though it is not known for certain by whom. In an account of it written fifty years ago Lord Peckover stated that in George II's reign it was owned by a baronet of the Southwell family. Southwell did in fact own the house they were not baronets however but a younger branch of the family which leased Wisbech Castle from the Bishops of Ely. Mr G M G Woodgate of Leverington House Wisbech has worked out the Southwell pedigree and has established that the first of the family to own Bank House was Henry Southwell (1695-1762) second son of Edward Southwell of the Castle. He was twice Town Bailiff and in 1754 High Sheriff of the Counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon. In his will he refers to Bank House as his capital messuage purchased of William Marshall Gent late deceased being late the estate of Thomas Lake. The date of Henry Southwell's purchase is not known but in another passage in his will he refers to a house on the South Brink in which he had previously dwelt and which Mr Woodgate thinks was the present Grammar School or a house that preceded it. To William Marshall or Thomas Lake the building of Bank House should probably be ascribed if the date 1722 be accepted. Henry Southwell was succeeded by his son John a merchant who however only outlived him by nine years and on his death left Bank House subject to his mother's life interest to his youngest sister Mary who married Sir James Eyre Recorder of Lincoln and



2—THE GARDEN FRONT

Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. It was about the end of the century that the house was acquired by the Peckovers.

A simple cube of mixed yellow and mauve brick, with rich red brick for the dressings, the exterior depends for its effect on proportion and texture. The ground floor is raised above a vaulted basement; from which a passage leading to the river, but now blocked, enabled coal and other stores to be unloaded directly from barges. The flanking brick pilasters, the brick cornice and parapet and the apron panels to the windows are the only features of the front apart from the entrance: this last is of stone and is dignified by a pair of Tuscan columns, entablature and curved pediment, framing a doorway with rusticated jambs and arch (Fig. 1).

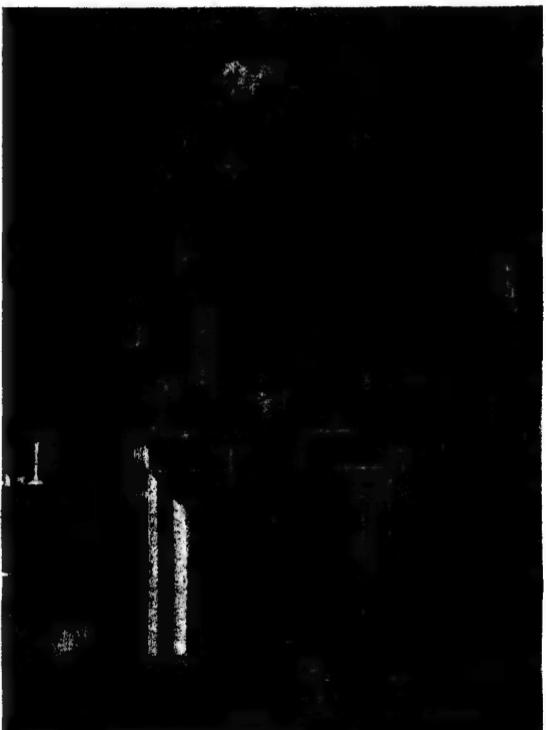
The rear elevation is rather more elaborately treated (Fig. 2). Over the pedimented doorway is a Venetian window and, above it again, a lunette divided into three. These stone features look later and were probably inserted at the time when the interior was so elaborately decorated, the Venetian window lighting the staircase. Some disturbance of the brickwork around the two centre windows can be detected on a close inspection. In confirmation of this theory it may be mentioned that an almost exact replica of the front of Bank House is to be seen on the south side of the Market Place at Whittlesey, in a house that is now the Post Office and is certainly the work of the same builder, and that another somewhat later house of yellow brick on the east side of the Market Place shows the same combination of Venetian window with lunette above as on the garden front of Bank House. These two Whittlesey houses correspond exactly with the building of Bank House and the subsequent alterations we have suggested.

The story of the decoration of the house as told by Lord Peckover was that the lady of the Southwell "baronet" pressed her husband to adorn the interior more handsomely and, on his refusing on the score of expense, applied successfully to her father for the necessary money. As Henry Southwell's father-in-law was John Wyldbore, of Peterborough, a wealthy man possessed of large estates, the story may be referred to him. Traditionally, the carving in the house is supposed to have been done by French artists who had been working at Houghton Hall. There is, however, no record of Frenchmen being employed at Houghton, the decoration of which is, of course, on a far grander scale and was completed before 1735. It is unlikely that the woodwork and plasterwork at Bank House are earlier than 1750, certainly not the splendid Rococo chimney ornament in the drawing-room (Fig. 3). It is possible, however, that there was a Norfolk connection and that the architect employed came from Norwich, where Matthew and Robert Brettingham and Thomas Ivory were then the chief practitioners. There is a general resemblance between the decoration at Bank House and that of Ivory's Assembly Rooms at Norwich (1754), illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE, March 3, 1944. Another possibility is that James Essex of Cambridge was employed. His practice, no doubt, extended outside Cambridge itself.

The drawing-room, the most elaborately decorated



3.—THE DRAWING-ROOM



4.—A MASTERPIECE OF ROCOCO CARVING: THE CHIMNEY-PIECE IN THE DRAWING-ROOM

of the rooms, is on the right of the entrance hall. The eye is at once taken and held by the elaborate Rococo composition framing a mirror over the fireplace (Fig. 4). This is a *tour de force* of applied carving and must have been the work of a first-rate craftsman whether foreign or native. The frame of the mirror itself is surmounted by an eagle from whose beak depends a long ribbon of drapery caught up over the bird's wing-tips, tied in bows and then falling on either side of the mirror, and garlanded at intervals with posies of flowers. Both in design and execution it is a masterpiece of grace and elegance, and the fact that the ceiling of the room is left plain adds further value to its decorative effect. A very rich modillioned cornice runs round the room and the doors and doorcases are handsomely enriched and surmounted by broken triangular pediments above friezes in which the same high standard of carving appears (Fig. 9). The colouring of the room—pale blue-grey and white—is probably the original. Against it the coloured marble slabs in the fireplace, which is kept quite simple in treatment, stand out in contrast. The green damask curtains with their elegant draping are early Victorian but add further to the charm of the room. Opening from it on the garden side is the morning-room, where the decoration is limited to the fireplace, dado and doorcases, the last having carved friezes of swags centring in rams-heads (Fig. 8). The dining-room, to the left of the entrance hall, is a panelled room, coloured salmon pink,



5.—THE BRANKS, CIRCA 1860. A WATER-COLOUR BY ALGERNON PECKOVER

with enriched cornice and carved chimney-piece in two stages elegantly carved, though showing no outstanding excellence above the general run of work of its time (Fig. 10).

In the setting of the staircase there is a resumption of rich decoration. Here it was the plasterer's turn. It is possible that the staircase itself with its slim balusters and mahogany handrail (Fig. 6) is of the date when the house was built and earlier than the decoration of walls and coved ceiling. The most impressive view is from the first-floor landing, looking through the coffered arch at the staircase across to the Venetian window opposite (Fig. 7). Although the two arches break into the cove, the resulting awkwardness was used to advantage by the

plasterer in his scrolling ornament. On the walls the level between the two floors is marked by a band of wave ornament, which is carried on as a string under the stair-ends.

On the first floor the doors leading off the staircase landing are also handsomely treated and the principal bedrooms are panelled and retain good Georgian fireplaces. The same on a less expensive scale applies to the bedrooms on the floor above. The original brass door furniture remains, and in some rooms there is a brass bolt which the occupant could manipulate by a cord when in bed (Fig. 12). In a recent correspondence in COUNTRY LIFE other examples of this old device were given. The fine walnut and gilt mirror with the carved bird between the swan necks of the pediment dates from about 1730 (Fig. 11).

The whole house has come down in a wonderful state of preservation very few alterations having been made to the building, apart from the wings. For the last century and a half it has been in the ownership of the Peckover family, to whom Wisbech owes so many generous gifts. The first of the family to settle in the town was Jonathan Peckover, a native of Fakenham and a descendant of one of Cromwell's Ironsides who had joined the Society of George Fox and his Friends. He came to Wisbech in 1777, and five years later founded the local bank of Messrs. Gurney, Birkbeck and Peckover, which retained its independence until the big merger of banks forming Barclays took place in 1896. Jonathan Peckover had his bank in



6 and 7.—THE STAIRCASE WITH MID-GEORGIAN PLASTERWORK TO WALLS AND COVED CEILING



8 and 9.—CARVED DOOR-HEADS IN THE MORNING-ROOM AND (right) IN THE DRAWING-ROOM

■ wing adjoining the house, but since pulled down. His decision to purchase Bank House may have been influenced by its proximity to the Friends' Meeting House a few yards to the west. The present building, to the left of the stables, was built in 1854, but its predecessor had been used by the Friends for their meetings since 1711. Behind it and adjoining the garden of Bank House is the old burial-ground in which many members of the Peckover family lie. One grave, marked by initials, age and date cut out in box—J.S., 88, 1742—has a romantic story attached to it. It is said to be the resting-place of Jane Stuart, a natural daughter of James II. Persecuted for her religious persuasions, she left London and made her way to Wisbech on foot; there she stood by the bridge with the labourers waiting to hire themselves out, and at first found employment in the harvest field. Later she made a living by spinning, living contentedly in a cellar in the Old Market and regularly attending the Friends' meeting.

William Peckover, the eldest of a large family, succeeded his father at Bank House, while a younger brother, Algernon, settled at Sibald Holme, a house farther west along the North Brink. The latter was a talented amateur artist and architect, who designed Harecroft House on the North Brink and also the two low wings of Bank House. The charming water-colour showing the Brinks about 1860 is by him (Fig. 5). William Peckover was a bachelor, and on his death in 1877 his nephew, Alexander, moved to Bank House. He was for many years Lord-lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, and in 1907



10.—THE DINING-ROOM CHIMNEY-PIECE



11.—MIRROR IN WALNUT AND GILT GESSO FRAME CIRCA 1780

(Left)
12.—BRASS LOCK-PLATE AND DOOR-BOLT FOR WORKING BED

was raised to the peerage as Lord Peckover of Wisbech. A notable collector and bibliophile, he built the two low wings on either side of the house, one to house his library, the other for offices. A charming feature in the view from across the river is the late 18th-century tower beside the stables, with its bay windows, pyramidal roof and weathercock (Fig. 1).

In the garden are many rare plants and specimen trees, including a maidenhair tree planted by Jonathan Peckover 150 years ago. At one corner of the garden, some distance away, is a large barn with roof of reed thatch, and near by stands the shaft of the White Cross which once stood in the Low, at the end of Chapel Lane, and was recovered from the river during dredging operations a century ago.

By Miss Peckover's generous gift of Bank House and its grounds of 46 acres to the National Trust the future of this fine house with its rich 18th-century decoration is now secure.

THE QUALITY AND STYLE OF CUT GLASS—II

Written and Illustrated by
E. M. ELVILLE

THE style of decoration upon cut glass has been the subject of controversy among critics for at least a century. Since the time of Ravenscroft, who invented crystal glass in 1676, up to the middle of the 18th century, the appeal for English glass had depended on its purity of form and the inherent properties of the glass itself, that is, its sparkle and brilliancy. No further embellishments such as cutting, engraving, enamelling or gilding, then very popular on the Continent, were required to satisfy the English taste.

The Glass Excise Act of 1745-6, however, necessitated a change in style, a heavy duty being imposed on the materials used in the manufacture of glass. In efforts to economise, the glassmaker produced lighter vessels, and the Continental fashions such as cutting and engraving, introduced into this country with George I in 1714, began to find a place in popular esteem. About the same time, there occurred a national conversion to classical styles in all branches of art, and the slender forms in glass with unstressed decorative effect, such as the



1.—IN MODERN DESIGNS CURVES REPLACE THE ORTHODOX GEOMETRIC PATTERNS

shallow fluting of bowls and the faceting of the stems of wine-glasses, tended to conform to its requirements at least up to the close of the century.

The style of the early hollow diamond cutting on the stems of wine-glasses (Fig. 2) was advertised from 1735 onwards in the London newspapers. For example, the *London Evening Post*, January 11, 1735, contained the advertisement:

"To be sold at the Glass Seller's Arms, Fleet Street, a great variety of Flint Glass, Diamond-Cut and Plain, the finest ever made."

The *Daily Journal*, August 30, 1735, gave the information:

"The Glass Seller's Arms. Where are to be had the best Double Flint Glass, Diamond-Cut and Plain, with several curiosities engraved on Glass. The lowest price is marked on each piece."

The glass seen in Fig. 2, which is in my collection, is undoubtedly a very early and rare specimen of a faceted stem wine-glass. This is indicated by its many interesting characteristics, such as the shallow, elongated style of diamond cutting, the wide, folded foot and the quality of the glass. This restrained style in the decoration of wine-glasses persisted, with little modification, until the close of the century.

New burdens in the form of increased excise duties, however, were imposed on the

glass-makers towards the end of the century, and many glass-makers and craftsmen left this country for Ireland, where there were no such duties and where full freedom of trade had been granted in 1780, giving every prospect of a large foreign and colonial market.

Irish glass-making, which flourished between 1780 and 1825, can, therefore, be regarded as the continuance of English art in glass, and it is to be assumed developed on much the same lines as it would have done in this country had it been unrestricted by imprudent legislation. Within this period, however, there was a general tendency for both English and Irish cut-glass vessels to lose the reticence in decoration that had characterised the earlier efforts.

The vessels became heavier, offering a wider field for the glass-cutter to display his talents. Every conceivable style of cut decoration was attempted, mostly dominated by a profusion of deeply-cut grooves parallel or intersecting, which formed diamond patterns in relief, and in which any clear spaces were filled with smaller adorments.

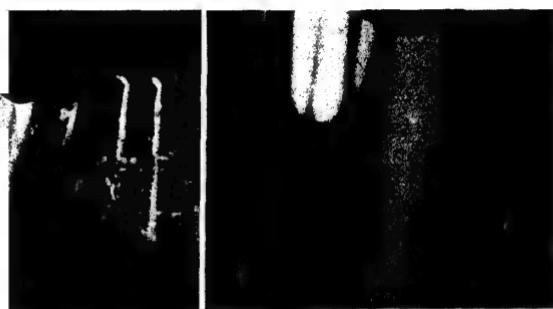
It was these styles that the English craftsmen inherited in 1845 with the repeal of the Excise Acts of the previous century, and that they offended the artistic taste of that period is borne out by the severe criticism in 1851 of Ruskin, who denounced all cutting on glass as barbarous because it concealed its properties and confused it with natural crystal. It is true, of course, that Ruskin's criticism occurred at a time when the popularity of English cut crystal glass was already on the decline, for his distaste for the lack of reticence of applied decoration was shared by most of his contemporaries of artistic taste.

A study of the classical period of English cut glass between 1750 and 1810 shows that the cutting was designed merely to give expression to one of the essential properties of glass, namely, its inherent brilliancy, and not to over-emphasise it. The elegance of form and the restraint in decoration were in harmony and one was not stressed at the expense of the other.

Attempts to recover this classical style were made early in the present century by several prominent English manufacturers, and to-day there is every promise that their efforts will not be wasted. Characteristic of modern designs are those of Keith Murray



2.—AN EARLY SPECIMEN OF HOLLOW DIAMOND CUTTING



3.—PART OF AN ASH TRAY SHOWING "SAND" MARKS FROM THE ROUGHING WHEEL
(Right) 4.—ENLARGED VIEW OF THE "SAND" MARKS

(Fig. 1), manufactured by Messrs. Stevens and Williams, Ltd., of Stourbridge. The purist will find these elegant specimens with their restrained style a welcome relief from the shapeless masses of crystal glass decorated with a preponderance of cut patterns which made their appearance in the early Victorian period.

The elaborate cutting of chandeliers and candelabra, however, can be defended on the question of taste, for the function of such objects is to be ornamental and to display light, which gives a utilitarian sanction to their decoration. These objects form what are perhaps the most decorative and brilliant of lighting fittings, and are not at all out of place even in modern interiors.

The final step in the consideration of cut-glass vessels is the quality of the workmanship. As the cutting of glass is a process carried out by the aid of the hand and eye, its success depends almost entirely upon the skill and conscientiousness of the craftsman.

First, an examination should be made for "sand" marks. Glass cutting consists of three main operations: "roughing," out the design on a metal wheel fed with sand as an abrasive; "smoothing" on a stone wheel, which removes the rough finish of the sand particles; and a polishing operation, which restores to the surface its original brilliance and lustre. If the smoothing is carelessly executed, "sand" marks from the roughing process will still be apparent and will not be removed by polishing. This defect in workmanship is shown in an illustration of part of an ash tray (Fig. 3). The streaks from the "roughing" operation with sand are clearly visible in the hollow flute on the left of the picture. A magnified view of this section (Fig. 4) emphasises the pitting of the surface of the glass by the abrasive action of the sand. These "sand" marks can be removed only by correct smoothing on the stone wheel, and their presence points to hurried and careless workmanship.

A further point in the consideration of workmanship is the execution of the pattern. In most cut designs the pattern is repeated round the specimen, and care has to be taken that no variation occurs in executing these repetitions. Uniformity of pattern is, therefore, an important point to be observed. The cuts themselves should also be examined for uniformity, and corresponding lines intended to



5.—A BADLY CUT STAR IS SHOWN IN THE LOWER HALF OF A VASE

(Right) 6.—THE STAR (Fig. 5) MAGNIFIED
Note overlapping extremities and bad crossing at centre

have the same value should be equally stressed in depth and width.

A cut groove of which the section forms an angle is termed a mitre, and where the extremities of such mitres are intended to meet, they should do so in a point and should not fall short. Neither should they overlap, for carelessness in this respect is even more offensive to the artistic taste. An illustration of the base of a cut-glass vase (Fig. 5) shows that the extremities of the eight-pointed star in the centre of the picture overlap at the top of the triangle. When this section is magnified (Fig. 6), the incorrect meeting of the cuts is clearly seen, while the faulty crossing of the mitres in the centre of the star is also emphasised.

Another example of poor workmanship in this respect is shown (Fig. 7), where the points of the cuts arranged fanwise, converging to a common centre, fail to meet correctly.

An indication of good craftsmanship is always to be found in curvilinear designs, for patterns based on deeply cut curves are the most difficult to execute. The smooth easy flow of curves indicates an expert craftsman, but specimens are not at all uncommon in which faults in this respect are apparent. Although the curve is marked out for the cutter, in most cases by a painted outline, he must follow it correctly by orientating the specimen being cut along the straight edge of the wheel. Execution of this sort is a test for any craftsman.

Still more difficult are curvilinear designs on a curved surface, such as on the bowl of a decanter, for not only has the craftsman to manipulate the vessel by hand to follow a curved outline, but also he has to execute this on



a curved surface along the straight edge of the cutting wheel; for this reason the cut decoration found on most specimens is made up of straight lines into numerous geometric patterns. It is, in fact, not unusual to find six and sometimes as many as eight different cut patterns formed into a design all composed of straight lines.

The flutes or hollows cut on a curved surface, although of rounded outline, do not strictly constitute curvilinear cuts, for in the execution of these patterns the specimen is held in line with the edge of the cutting wheel and is not orientated.

Popular geometric patterns are composed of stars, 8-, 12-, 16- or 24-pointed or of the Brunswick style; fans and festoons; diamonds, which may be hollow, convex, strawberry, chequered or cross-cut; rings; flutes, both hollow and pillar, and many other kinds of cutting. Westropp, in his book *Irish Glass*, mentions no fewer than thirteen different kinds of cutting. All of them, however, as well as those mentioned above, consist of straight cuts.

Curvilinear patterns, because of their difficulty in execution are, therefore, uncommon. A good example of cutting in which curves are featured is shown in the convex lid of a cut-glass box (Fig. 8). The curves are in the form of a double bow, in which the loops are very well executed. The corresponding cuts are of equal value, and the loops are uniform in size. In a design of this type, lack of uniformity would cause the work to appear amateurish.

The modern, fanciful designs illustrated in Fig. 1 are based on natural curves and show very little of the orthodox straight-line cutting.



7.—THE CUTS FORMING A FAN DO NOT MEET CORRECTLY



8.—LID OF A CUT-GLASS BOX FEATURING WELL EXECUTED CURVES

MAKING CRICKET BALLS BY HAND

By NORMAN WYMER



THE PROCESS OF "CLOSING." Two quarters of leather from a hide are sewn together to form one half of the outer cover. (Middle) SHAPING THE CORE OF A CRICKET BALL, KNOWN AS "QUILTING" (Right) THE QUILT OR CORE IS HAMMERED INTO SHAPE

IN the old days when the lords and noblemen of Kent, Sussex and Hampshire were rubbing shoulders with the farm-hands and yokels upon the downis near Hambledon, it was the usual practice for the village carpenters to make the bats and the cobblers the balls. Both these articles, when they had not been made expressly for some individual patron, would then be sold, more often than not, in the local ironmongery and toy shops.

Sometimes the players themselves would take it into their heads to make such pieces as a sideline to their main business. John Small, for instance, a "linen draper, silk mercer, etc.", who was one of the earliest members of the famous Hambledon Club, saw fit to place a sign over his Petersfield shop, advertising that "he doth make both bat and ball and will play any man in England for five pounds a side." The balls of his making appear to have left much to be desired, expanding and contracting, as they did, according to the weather; yet, for all that he enjoyed a considerable reputation as both player and craftsman.

From information kindly sent to me by Col. R. S. Rait Kerr, Secretary of the M.C.C., it seems that the Duke family were making cricket

balls at Penshurst in Kent as far back as the 16th century, while a written reference to such an article has been traced back to 1658. In the 18th century, when the game was really coming into its own, we find several mentions of such things as "leathern spheres", "leathern orbs", or "leathern circles". Indeed, it is reasonable to suppose that the materials used by the old-time craftsmen were really pretty well the same now, since an earlier writer on the game assures us that, in both the 17th and 18th centuries, there was always a ready supply of the all-important leather, cork and worsted to be found in the "Garden of England".

Possibly it was on account of this plentiful supply of materials that Kent gradually rose to the fore, though I imagine that the influence of the Sackville family, who, besides holding cricket parties at Knole, were also responsible for the founding of the celebrated Vine Club at Sevenoaks, must also have had something to do with it. By 1760, colonies of cricket-ball makers were scattered far and wide throughout the Weald.

The earliest balls of which we have any reliable information were made with three seams. Later, a fourth was added, and, in 1780, a member of the Duke family adopted the fashion—in vogue to this day—of employing six seams. By this time, too, the weight of the cricket ball, which previously was undefined, had been fixed at its present weight of between $5\frac{1}{2}$ and $5\frac{3}{4}$ ounces, though some 55 years were still to pass before any definite attempt was made to regulate the size of the ball. The cover seems to have assumed its familiar red from earliest times.

To-day, Kent, with the Tonbridge-Maidstone area forming the chief centre of operations, is still the Mecca of the cricket-ball makers. The craft is still essentially a hand craft, manned, often by descendants of those early cobblers and others; between them, I am told, these craftsmen turn out thousands of balls for clubs and schools every season.

Though the workshops are bigger than in days gone by, the old atmosphere lingers yet. Though the demand increases year by year, we shall find men of the same fine old English stock that Grace and Lillywhite knew making by hand a ball that has never altered greatly.

Yet, though the old lore maintains, no longer are the materials all obtained locally as in the past. While the worsted is now spun in the North and Midlands, and the cow-hides are brought to the workshops from near and far, the all-important cork now comes from the forests of Spain and Portugal.

In this highly specialised craft it is seldom that one man ever makes a ball from start to

finish; the "quilter", "seamer", "cutter" and one or two others must play their part equally if the finished ball is to be of perfect dimensions and weight and is to stand up to the hard knocks that will be its portion. Indeed, perfection is the keyword of this industry.

When the cow-hide reaches the workshop it is milky white in colour, since the ball-makers always insist upon the tanners giving it a special form of dressing to render the leather more durable. As soon as the hides have been examined and passed as suitable, the cutter sets to work cutting them into long strips, some four inches wide, each of which he is careful to number so that, when the time comes to make up the covers, he can always be certain of sewing together strips from the same hide. In the old days—or so I have read—these strips were then painted the familiar red, to-day they are placed in vats for perhaps a fortnight and dyed by a process that most craftsmen like to keep secret.

After this treatment they are hung in the open to dry, stretched and "quartered"—that is trimmed into sections not unlike the four quarters of an orange-skin. Placing two of these quarters side by side over a convex block with what will eventually be the inside uppermost,



STITCHING THE SAIL



TESTING FOR SIZE

the craftsman begins the process of "closing". This most intricate work entailing, as it does, sewing together the two quarters with such a degree of precision that no stitches are left visible on either side of the cover, is done by only the most accomplished craftsman who can only ensure such precision by seeing that the special curved awl—with which he makes the holes to take the hempen thread—never penetrates to a greater depth than half the thickness of his leather.

Now that is the end of his difficulties. Since the stitching lines naturally tend to make the quarters thicker at the edges than in the centre, he must also let in a "false quarter", carefully bevelled round the side, to even the surface and give added strength.

When two cup-like "half-covers" have been so made, they are fastened together and passed on to a second man to "turn" to shape in a gun-metal mould before trimming the edges.

Meanwhile, the "quilter" is hard at work fashioning the "core". Taking a solid piece of cork—straight from the tree, as it were—he first cuts it into a cube of about an inch and neatly trims away the corners to render it more or less spherical. Next he moistens a strand of pure white worsted to make it more pliable and binds it firmly round the cork. After a while he adds a



THE WORKSHOP OF A FACTORY THAT MAKES CRICKET BALLS

piece of wet sheet cork before continuing his winding as before. And so he goes on, alternately winding his worsted and letting in his cork until his core is complete, working with considerable speed all the while. Since, however, the ball must be of a standard weight and size, he stops from time to time to weigh his cork in a recessed mould and give it a sound pounding with a heavy hammer before testing for weight.

When at last, quilt and cover are complete both are handed over to the "seamer," and it

is his job to make them one. As the cover has previously been made in half for the core, the latter has to be placed, with the two half-covers over it, in a cupped vice while the seamer begins his first row of stitching. After carefully inserting his awl close to the junction of the two cases in such a way that it passes down, through, and up again on the other side of the join, he takes two threads of specially prepared flax, and, with the aid of a bristle, passes them through the hole in opposite directions in such a way that they are knotted beneath the join. Two further holes are made, and the process is repeated until the seam is complete.

But the seamer's work does not end with the first line of stitches; there are two further rows to make on either side, and I am told that a high-grade ball will not be "in

tain as many as 80 stitches". So fine is the work of these seamers that one is at once reminded of the old-time saddlers, the neatness of whose lines were brought about with almost mathematical precision after the marks for the holes had been carefully measured and pricked out before ever the awl was touched.

All that remains now is to place the ball in the finishing mould to perfect the shape and to stamp it with gold letters recording the name of the makers.

"WHERE DID THAT ONE GO"?

WHAT is the secret of this long driving?" said a friend to me in the club-house at St. Andrews, where we sat in the big window looking at the Sunday morning emptiness from the club to the burn. "I wish you would tell me." I declined the invitation, which is, as that of the spider to the fly, not to be rashly accepted; nevertheless, the subject is one that almost invariably suggests itself. I have been watching the most magnificent hitting from the tee, not only very long but very straight, and I wish I knew how the devil—if I may be pardoned the expression—these young gentlemen do it. An old friend and a very fine golfer says to me cheerfully, "They don't hit a bit farther than we did." Leaving myself altogether out of account, for I know I didn't, I cannot agree with him. I think they do hit both farther and straighter. It may be the ball or the clubs; as to that I am not sure, but as to the fact I do feel pretty sure.

The subject suggests itself particularly at St. Andrews as it is now, soft, heavy and grassy, and to the elderly eye almost intolerably long. The course has suffered from a severe winter, and almost unprecedented downpours of rain, and no doubt normal conditions will some day come back; the fitness and delicacy will return to the turf; it will be expedient to play running shots once again, but at present it is merely inexpedient, it is as nearly as may be impossible. There is one other factor but to hit a very long drive, and then some long high approach shot hang up to the pin, the man who cannot hit a very long drive will not get up in two; it is "just too bad," but there it is. As it is now, really good sound drivers are simply not long enough for the course, and if I did not want to lacerate feelings I could give concrete examples that would astonish the reader. It is a great mistake to write over much about big hitting as if nothing else mattered, but at the present moment on the old course it does matter terribly. There was a time when a player who had no great length, but was very straight and accurate and could make the ball run, was extremely formidable here. His day will doubtless return, but at the moment he is just not in the hunt. I think it is rather a pity and makes the game a little monotonous.

One or two things must strike the envious and elderly enquirer as he watches this band of lusty young smiters. The most noticeable is the fact that they all take the club a very little way back; they have what would once have been called half or short swings, as opposed to full swings. After looking at all the chosen players, both British and American, I can only think of one who has what would once have been termed a full swing. That is the left-handed P. B. Lucas, and I am old-fashioned enough to revel in the watching of him. Nobody else's club goes so far as to be parallel with the ground at the top of the swing, or at least, since the human eye is not very trustworthy, I will say that nobody else's club seems to go so far. Once upon a time Andrew Kirkaldy was thought to have a conspicuously short swing, but he swung fully as far back as do any of these modern drivers. If the distance can be obtained, as it assuredly can, with that relatively short back swing, then there can be no possible point in taking it any farther. I am not criticising; I am merely stating objectively the result of my observation. This general shortening of the back swing has of course often been commented on before, but I have never myself been so much struck by it before, and I have never seen such collectively superb driving by any body of amateurs as I saw in our Walker Cup trial.

There is another point that I am inclined to make, and this applies particularly to the American side. The old American players were a body of swingers, lovely, graceful, almost sleepy swingers. Svengali said that *il bel canto* had been lost and that he had rediscovered it in a dream. When we first saw our American conquerors—Bobby Jones, Francis Ouimet, Evans, Guillford and the rest of that illustrious company—we said that the art of really swinging the club had been lost in this country and had been rediscovered on the other side of the Atlantic. Perhaps it had been taken to America by the earlier race of Scottish professionals, in particular from Carnoustie. At any rate it had somehow taken root in the United States and the methods of our amateurs, with a few noteworthy exceptions, seemed crude and forcing by comparison.

To-day our men swing better and more uni-

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

formly than they used to do, whereas the Americans have become, again *exceptis excipiendis*, a race of punching hitters. They punch the ball hard and far. After their great victory it seems impertinent to criticise, but something of the old rhythmic beauty and smoothness has departed. It is a natural failing to admire most those with whom we played ourselves, and to deprecate, however mildly, those who have in the course of time succeeded and supplanted them; but I will venture to say that these modern American amateurs do not give me the same intense aesthetic pleasure in the watching as did an earlier generation. Most people say that this is the consequence of having been brought up entirely on steel shafts, that this punching is a transitory stage and that in the end the old gospel of swinging will return. This is the view of one of the greatest of the elder American players. I do not know if he is right; for the sake of the beauty of golf I hope he is.

There seems to me one very gratifying feature of the driving of our own amateurs, and that was in the trial matches truly splendid I have no doubt. Fred Robson, who was looking on, and is as level-headed as he is an acute observer, said he had never seen so many fine strikers of the ball, and his judgment is good enough for me. The feature was that this driving was as straight as it was long. St. Andrews is admittedly a course that allows a certain latitude; it is not cramping or frightening to a big hitter as is a course where there are two regular, menacing lines of rough or heather on either hand. Yet allowing for this fact the straightness of the tee shots was remarkable. After the first day there arose a race of mighty young drivers, who were very long indeed, but could on occasions be very crooked indeed. It was hard to see where they now and then errred so far, but they undoubtedly did. One was driven to the not very satisfactory explanation that he desperately hard hitting must generate any error and hence the wild shot. These long drivers of to-day seem to have retained all the power, but to have shed the original tendency to crookedness. I have not answered the question with which I began. I can only say again that they do hit the ball like the devil unchained.

THE PROBLEM OF THE DERBY

THOUGH Fred Darling's statement that he would saddleonly Tudor Minstrel and Blue Train (the latter providing the going is not too hard) of the eight horses that he had engaged in to-morrow's Derby to a certain extent clarified the outlook, the race continued to present an intriguing problem.

Firm favourite and so far unbeaten, Tudor Minstrel was bred and is owned by Mr. J. A. Dewar, and is one of the first get of the Derby and Gold Cup winner, Owen Tudor (by Hyperion) from Sansonnet, a daughter of the Derby winner Sansovino, which has also bred Neola and Neolight, and was from Lady Juror, a Son-in-Law mare that was the foundation of the success of the Homestall Stud. Last season Tudor Minstrel won four races to the total value of £28,156, and was rightly considered to be the best of his age, while this year, after winning a small event at Bath, he put up what was a meteoric display in the Two Thousand Guineas when he defeated Saravam, Sayjirah, and a dozen others in a heat race.

On the strength of this performance he earned the nickname of the Jet-horse, but, spectacular though his victory was, it was not to my mind, as impressive as that of H.M. the King's colt, Blue Train, in the Newmarket Stakes.

A grandly made March-fueled chestnut taking very much after his sire, Blue Peter, which won the Two Thousand Guineas and Derby of 1939, and is already responsible for the Derby winner, Ocean Swell, Blue Train was bred at the National Stud, is leased to the King for his racing career and is the first foal of Sun Chariot, a daughter of Hyperion, which won the One Thousand Guineas, the Oaks and the St. Leger in the Royal colours in 1942.

Very backward last season, he made his only appearance upon a racecourse at Ascot in October, when, although comparatively unfancied, he won the Swinley Forest Stakes. This year, after a successful gallop at Sandown Park, he won the Newmarket Stakes. Although the latter performance was not so spectacular as Tudor Minstrel's victory in the Two Thousand Guineas, nevertheless it was a more genuine Derby trial and left the impression that Blue Train was a colt that could stay for ever and would be running on more strongly than his stable-mate in the closing stages of the Derby. This statement does not infer that Tudor Minstrel is lacking in stamina. A great deal—mostly unjustified—has been written about a possible flaw in Tudor Minstrel's stamina owing to his close relationship to Neola and Neolight, but it seems to have been completely, and perhaps conveniently, forgotten that both these fillies were by Neardo, a sire whose stock have an average winning distance capacity of just a mile. Blue Train is the son of the Gold Cup, Owen Tudor, and is capable of imparting the necessary stamina to Tudor Minstrel.

Second favourite is the Maharsa Gaekwar of Baroda's Sayjirah. An only brother to Dantes and so by Neardo from Rony Legend (by Dark Legend), this colt was bred by Sir Eric Ohlson at his Friar Ings Stud at Middleham, and was sold as a yearling for the world's record yearling-prize of 28,000 guineas. Lightly raced last season, he won one race, was second once and third once, and was reckoned by the Official Handicapper to be 10 lb. inferior to Tudor Minstrel. This year, no doubt on account of the severity of the weather at Newmarket, where F. Armstrong trains him, he was slow in coming to hand and never really found his feet until after the Two Thousand Guineas. Since then he has made almost daily improvements and put up an excellent performance when he won the Derby Trial Stakes at Lingfield, a fortnight ago. Better built, and with more leg than his illustrious brother, he forms the main New-



W. A. Roush

H.M. THE KING'S UNDEFEATED COLT BLUE TRAIN, SON OF A DERBY WINNER AND HIMSELF WINNER OF THE NEWMARKET STAKES

market hope and may be the chief danger to the Beckhampton pair.

An Irish or a French-trained Derby winner would be a rarity. From Eire there come great accounts of Grand Weather, while from the other side of the Channel it seems that Baron de Waldner's bay colt, Pearl Diver, will be the most fancied candidate. The former is by

with Mr. Lionel Edwards, who was painting his picture for the late Capt. R. G. Lyde's book *Newmarket*, I saw him five days after he was born. Eighteen months later he was even more impressive when I visited him at the National Stud. And only a month ago he filled the eye as the ideal type of colt to win a Derby.

ROVSTON.

COLOUR CHANGE IN SALMON

By WEST COUNTRY

THANKS to scale-reading we know a great deal more about the natural history of salmon than did our fathers, but there remain a number of matters upon which we are still just as ignorant as they were. One of these is the colour change that takes place at the time for spawning draws nearer.

What causes the complete transformation from the spotless silver coat of mail of the fresh-run salmon to the hideous semi-tones of red and black and brown and yellow of the autumn fish, and what purpose does it serve? Menzies, in his book *The Salmon: Its Life Story*, suggests that the coloration is protective, saying, "In quite small peaty streams fish thus discoloured are extremely difficult to see." But fish of any colour are extremely difficult to see in peat-stained water; the water is not by any means always coloured at spawning time, and many rivers do not rise in the peat bogs. In clear water, the red and black coloration is far more visible than is the silver, with greenish-brown back, of the fresh-run salmon. In any case, salmon frequently spawn in such shallow water that no protective coloration would be in the least effective in camouflaging so large a fish.

The salmon is not, of course, the only British species that changes its colour before breeding. The male three-spined stickleback becomes a very gay fellow when he dons his wedding-dress, and the yellow belly of the common eel turns to silver before the fish migrates downstream on the initial stage of its long spawning journey. But in none is the change so complete as in the salmon. We do not know what actually causes this colour change, and many people have an idea that it is due in some way to the action of river water, a sort of "rusting" as it were. This theory is disproved by the fact that the change also takes place in the sea, for coloured fish are often caught in the nets late in the season before they have ever felt fresh water. Hutton writes: "The change of colour in mature fish is probably due to transference of fats from all parts of the body to the

genital organs, with the consequence that the coating of the scales as it were dries up, and the thin plates coalesce and lose their iridescent effect and brightness. In the kelt the return of brightness is caused by the fats being diverted back to the original channels."

Menzies does not shed much light on the subject when he says: "The cause of the colour change is a little obscure, although it has been suggested that it is not unconnected with the deposition on the skin of some by-products resulting from the development of the genital organs." Thus these experts seem to agree that the colour change is due to the development of the sexual organs, and as the two normally synchronise, it is, perhaps, the most natural assumption. But there are so many exceptions that seem to belie this theory that I, for one, do not find it very satisfactory, although I have to admit my inability to suggest any other.

To begin with, one sometimes gets salmon with quite a pinkish tint as early as March, and there are plenty of red ones in many rivers by May. Yet if these coloured fish are opened, it will be found that the ova of the females are little, if at all, larger than those of the fresh-run salmon that have only just left the sea, while there will still be no trace of milt in the males. How then, can the change be due to the development of the genital organs, when these have not begun to develop?

Usually the colour change is a very gradual affair, but here again there seems to be exceptions. For example, in the winter of 1944, the Teign Fishery Board carried out experimental fishing during the close season to obtain some data about the very late run of salmon that only appear in midwinter and so are quite useless for either sport or food. During these operations one salmon was hooked, foul if I remember rightly, and played for some time. It was seen to be as bright as a fresh run springer, as, indeed, are many of these winter fish in the Teign. Eventually, however, it broke away, carrying part of the angler's gear. A few days later this

same fish was hooked (the tackle was soon still attached), but in the meantime it had completely changed colour and was now the normal autumn hue. Unfortunately, it was again lost, and so more detailed examination was not possible.

Some years ago the Tamar and Plym Fishery Board took out for examination a number of a similar type of late-running salmon that enter the Plym, usually in December and January. Most of these were typical autumn fish in appearance, but there was one hen of 11 lb. resembling a bar of silver. Yet herova

were as big as peas, and as fully developed as those in hens that had changed colour.

In the spring of 1942 some most extraordinary salmon came up the Tavy. I had two myself, and heard of one or two others. They were all cockles, and both mine had sex; indeed, one was still in a tidal pool. In appearance they were just like springers at the same date, yet both had fully developed "beaks," and milt so ripe that it dripped from the vents as they were landed.

In this river we usually get a few "rawners," (cock fish which have not yet spawned)

and occasionally a "baggot" (a hen in the same condition) every spring, and I have caught several as late as May. But invariably, these are just like autumn fish in appearance, and in no other season have I seen these silver "rawners." Unfortunately, I could not obtain any films for my camera, and so was unable to obtain a permanent record of these strange fish. I wonder whether they would have changed colour as quickly as did the one in the Teign.

In view of all these exceptions the theory that the colour change is due solely to the development of the genital organs is, I feel non-proven.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE WAR OFFICE AND BRECKLAND

SIR.—The letter from Mr. C. Cadbury (May 16) in regard to the War Office threat to the Norfolk Breckland raises an even more serious question than the destruction and disposal of bird life in the Nature Reserve there—the threat to the security of all public trust by the repudiation of agreements and promises.

In 1942, at the time of the requisition of the Stanford Battle Area, comprising about 18,100 acres in Breckland, promises were made to the villagers in Tottington and other places within the Area, by the G.O.C. Eastern Command and the Deputy Regional Commissioner for the Eastern Region (this is by a senior officer on duty and a high-ranking officer of the Government) that as soon as hostilities ceased their homes and farms would be restored and they would be permitted to return with the least possible delay. Not only do the War Department now consider holding the Stanford Battle Area on a permanent basis, but they propose to extend their hold over the further 9,000 acres that include Ringmere and Langmere.

Apart from the breach of faith, it is surely a piece of senseless improvidence that, despite the times, to prevent a certain food production on a very large area of land.

Breckland is perhaps thought by many to be of no great value for agriculture; but a great deal of the thin soil over chalk on the South Downs, generally speaking nearly as such good land as the Stanford Battle Area, has been cultivated for generations; and modern methods of farming, with large-scale mechanisation and improved technique, have made it economic to cultivate the Breckland to a high degree, which is in fact done on most of the 9,000 acres additional to the Battle Area which it is now



A FIELD OF TULIPS IN CO. DUBLIN

See letter: Tulip Growing in Ireland

proposed to requisition on a permanent basis. Breckland is ideally suited to growing barley and sugar-beet, and to dairying on the open-air hillsides. Turnips and cabbages, and under irrigation it will grow any kind of vegetable.

This new threat to the district is just another example of complete disregard of solemn promises made by those in authority, and of waste of our natural resources. It is to be hoped that force of public opinion, if not a sense of moral justice, will compel the War Department to give up their hold on the Stanford Battle Area and adjoining land forthwith, and allow the displaced people to return to their homes without further procrastination.

C. R. F. ALLEN-MEVICK, *Wreatham, Thetford, Norfolk.*

to spear the cornered quarry with during the chase.—S. V. O. SOMANADEER, *Batticaloa, Ceylon.*

THE PICKING OF SNAKES-HEADS

SIR.—The transplanting in the wild of snakes-heads, or fritillaries, which Mr. J. D. U. Ward seemed to suggest in his letter of last week, may have met with some considerable success, but it should be pointed out how severely the ranks of these attractive flowers have already been thinned in the Oxford district, for example, by indiscriminate uprooting and wholesale picking. One has only to compare the thousands in Addison's walk at the Royal College, where they are strictly protected, with the few to be found in the meadows along the Thames, to realise how much beauty and delight these uninhabited depredations (largely, I suspect, by school children) in the streets of Oxford every spring testify, for sale) have cost and are still costing lovers of the upper reaches of that river.—M. FORTESCUE, *London, S.E.21.*

A WILLIAM III STATUE

SIR.—The recent article in COUNTRY LIFE about the statue of King William III at Charing Cross, lately restored to its pedestal there, prompts me to recall that the fine statue of William III from Queen Square, Bristol, a photograph of which I enclose, was erected in the war in the grounds of Badminton House, Gloucestershire, is soon to be re-erected on its old site. It was fashioned by Ryebrach and originally set up in 1730.—R. W. Bristol.

and occasionally a "baggot" (a hen in the same condition) every spring, and I have caught several as late as May. But invariably, these are just like autumn fish in appearance, and in no other season have I seen these silver "rawners." Unfortunately, I could not obtain any films for my camera, and so was unable to obtain a permanent record of these strange fish. I wonder whether they would have changed colour as quickly as did the one in the Teign.

In view of all these exceptions the theory that the colour change is due solely to the development of the genital organs is, I feel non-proven.

TULIP GROWING IN IRELAND

SIR.—I think you may be interested in the enclosed photograph of a field of tulips. It was taken, not in Holland, nor even in Lincolnshire, but at Rush, Co. Dublin.—J. P. GILSEYAN, *Main Street, Rush, Co. Dublin.*

WISBECH EIGHTY YEARS AGO

SIR.—In the first of his articles on Wisbech Mr. Oswalt referred to the busy appearance of the town quays in the sixties and seventies of last century, "the masts and spars of the brigs and schooners engaged in the timber trade standing out high above the river banks." In those days the river was often crowded with ships of about 500-600 tons, mainly laden with timber from Baltic ports. Your readers may be interested to see an old photograph (page 1070) taken about 1880, showing a long line of brigs and schooners loading and unloading. I have another photograph taken about two years ago from the same viewpoint, but already the sailing ships have disappeared and steamships have taken their place.

Wisbech in those days even had a flourishing ship-building industry. There were seven shipyards for the building and repairing of ships. The largest of these was my grandfather's. Henson's Steam Slipway was capable of building or repairing two or three ships at a time and could haul ships up to 500 or 700 tons out of the river. The second photograph, from a Talbot type negative on a selected paper taken in 1887, shows a ship on the slipway either building or under repair.

The slipway consisted of a huge cradle constructed mainly of timber and shaped to take a ship's bottom; it was mounted on iron wheels which ran down into the river on rails similar to railway lines. A ship needing attention was brought over the submerged



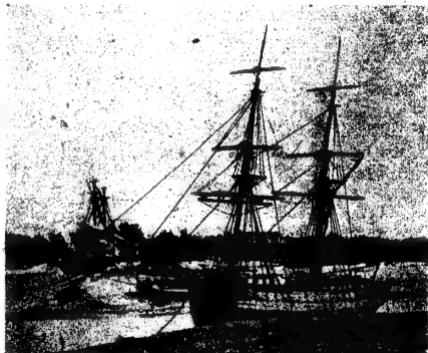
A GYPSY BRIDE WITH HER DOWRY IN
CEYLON

See letter: Dowry of a Ceylon Gypsy



THE STATUE OF WILLIAM III FROM
QUEEN SQUARE, BRISTOL

See letter: A William III Statue



AT WISBECH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE: BRIGS AND SCHOONERS LOADING AND UNLOADING ABOUT 1880. (Right) A SHIP BUILDING OR UNDER REPAIR IN ONE OF THE SLIPWAYS IN 1857

See letter : Wisbech Eighty Years Ago (page 1069)

cradle at high tide so as to settle on to it as the tide receded. When chocked, she was drawn up the inclined slipway on to the bank by a single-cylinder beam engine with large flywheel.

The coming of the iron and steam-powered ship soon brought about the decline of the old wooden ship, and about 1889 the slipway and tackle were sold and taken to Southampton for use there, though this information, I owe to one who was probably the last of the old shipwrights of Wisbech, having started work in my grandfather's yard in 1879. —A. E. HENSON, 27, King's Road, Barnet, Hertfordshire.

[The following views of the port of Wisbech in days of sail are among a large number of early photographs that the town is fortunate in possessing. Mr. Henson, whose photographs of country houses are well known to our readers, has himself contributed to the photographic record of his native town, since the photographs illustrating the articles we have been publishing were taken by him.—ED.]

ENGLAND OR HOLLAND?

Six—it is gratifying to read in your recent article on canals that there is a movement on foot to revive their use. While at Kirby-on-Bain, in Lincolnshire, recently, I came across several disused canal locks in cultivated fields, with no signs of any canal. It seems that many years ago there was a canal from Boston to Horncastle, and the latter town appears to have done a flourishing trade, as illustrated by the large numbers of Dutch-like warehouses still remaining on the banks of the river Bain. In my photograph, on the building on the right, may be seen the iron rings to which boats were moored, the canal and river being interconnected at various points.

In Horncastle, the canal ran alongside the Ship Inn, which was evidently an important hotel in the old days, judging by the amount of accommodation and stabling. At the bottom of the inn yard are a few steps leading to the canal, but there is now very little water in it. It seems a pity to have allowed such a reliable and cheap method of transport to lapse, for today the greater use of canals would effect a considerable saving in coal, petrol, and

rubber.—ARNOLD JOWETT, Halifax, Yorkshire.

[It is interesting to compare these Lincolnshire warehouses with those illustrated in the article on Wisbech in our last issue.—ED.]

GO-GETTING JACKDAWS

SIR.—I recently noticed two jackdaws pulling hair for their nests from the back of cows. They were tugging at it and went away with beaks full. Is this exceptional—so to speak?—or the law?—UNA STURCKLAND (Mrs.), Osborne House, Seaview, Isle of Wight.

[We, too, once saw a jackdaw helping itself to hair direct from a cow, but we do not think that the practice is a frequent one.—ED.]

JACK-IN-THE-GREEN

SIR.—With reference to recent correspondence about the Green Man or Jack-in-the-Green, this embodiment of the "Green Man" inn-sign and of the medieval Wild Man or Man of the Woods has been seen in London (traditionally) and to a limited extent (appearance) far more recently than 1888. He appeared, well within the century, in Kensington, accompanying

the May-day chimney-sweeps, brandishing the broom that sweeps out winter as they brandished the bushes of gorse-bushes that swept out chimney-sweeps and other sweepers of London, certainly until just before 1914. Knautsford is by no means the only place where he has been revived.

He is well known abroad by other names, identifying him by his character and his connection with the largest living plant or most noticeable signal of returning spring—the Tree in the Wood.—MARGARET DEAN-SMITH, Librarian, English Folk Dance and Song Society, 2, Regent's Park Road, N.W.1.

SALMON AND THE APPRENTICE

From Sir Douglas McGrath.

SIR.—Mr. Kee's reference, in COUNTRY LIFE of May 2, to Richard Franck's statement in 1658 that ancient Scotch statutes restricted the serving of salmon to apprentices to three days a week is most interesting, for Franck's reference to "I have been" is surely to an apprenticeship, and Franck may have copied it from an earlier writer, since angling writers for centuries were shameless

plagiarists, though to the credit of Dame Julianne Berners, the reputed author of *The Boke of St. Albans*, the first English book on fishing, printed in 1496 (or thereabouts), she does admit that certain information given by her "was also found written in booke of credence."

If there were such statutes as stated by Franck, surely there would be evidence of their existence other than the bare statement in his book. It is probable that Franck is the creator of that myth that pertains to this day, although unsupported by one scrap of evidence.

In *Angling Diversions*, by Capt. A. Courtenay Williams, there appears an extract from *The Gentleman's Magazine* of 1828, referring to the regulation of salmon restraining, but stating that no evidence had hitherto been produced, so that the search for evidence has, it is clear, been going on for a long time.

In certain districts in early days, before the era of the railway and the refrigerator, owing to the difficulty of transporting fish, there have been seasons when glut occurs; but the eating of fresh salmon could not have been much hardship. If an apprentice insisted that he was not to be served with it more than three days a week in those days, when there did not exist, it would soon have been put in his place.

It is possible, furthermore, that in periods of glut salmon may have been salted for consumption in the winter. Many would be speared on the reefs in the autumn. Williams' *Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing*, gives a vivid account of the "burning of the water," which was evidently a popular pastime. The leisters were accompanied by spectators, and at the end of their exploit they marched home triumphant with their spoil ("a hundred and two" great and small), torches blazing and skipping playing. These red autumn fish would not be good eating, either fresh or salted, but one might imagine that it was possible for them to be so plentiful as to be used for food ad nauseam; it is not probable.

Even to-day there are people who think that they people first-hand evidence of the salmon clause. A few weeks ago a correspondent to your columns claimed

(Continued on page 1073)

OLD CANAL WAREHOUSES AT HORNCastle, LINCOLNSHIRE

See letter : England or Holland?



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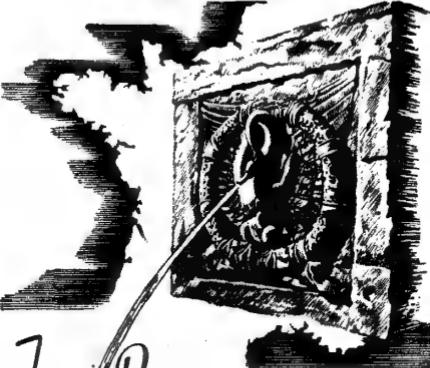
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to have seen an original indenture containing the clause within recent years at Worcester. What has happened to it? I received a letter from one of your readers stating that she had seen an original at York containing that clause. I was thrilled to the core, but on investigation found that, though an old apprentice's indenture existed, there was nothing about salmon in it.

The appearance of the clause in a modern indenture, long after it could have had any practical application, is rather galling to a solicitor. The tradition we well known, and a draftsman could have inserted the clause, prompted by a sense of humour. The example quoted by Mr. Tyt in his letter published on May 23 is, I think, an obvious instance of this. The clause was inserted in a will in 1887, or at any other time, in Birmingham of all places, so ludicrous that it cannot be taken seriously.

Once a hare started it takes a lot of running down. This particular hare appears to have started running in 1884 (possibly earlier) and it is still going strong.—Douglas McCraith, 22, Low Pavement, Nottingham.

CONGER-EEL PROBLEMS

SIR.—With reference to Mr. Codd's enquiry in your issue of April 18, about some conger eels washed up dead on the south-east coast recently. I remember my father telling me that, very sever winter (1870-71, I think), the foreshore at Deal was like a solid mass of ice, and many dead conger eels were washed up.

It was suggested at the time that the creatures came to the surface for air and were immediately frozen.—J. G. NOBLE, The Old Ford Farm, Ashford, Middlesex.

HOW DOES A HAWK ATTACK?

SIR.—Recently, while out duck shooting on a jhool not far from Delhi, I was fortunate enough to see a most unusual sight. It was just light enough to shoot and make packs of ducks fly away when they moved, disturbed by the sound of firing. A pack of about 12 duck passed over me flying fast in the direction of the rising sun; as they were over my head, just out of range, a bird flashed down on them from an angle of approximately 30 degrees and before they realised what was happening had struck one of them.

The next thing I saw was that the attacker and its victim were locked together, the latter being held in the talons of the former. They fluttered to the ground, striking about 200 yards from me.

I think the attacking bird was either a peregrine or a goshawk. The method of striking interested me, since I had always believed that both peregrines and goshawks struck and then their prey in the air, using either beak or talons or both. In this instance the duck was alive and struggling as it fell to the ground.

Half an hour later I picked up the duck and found it to be a drake

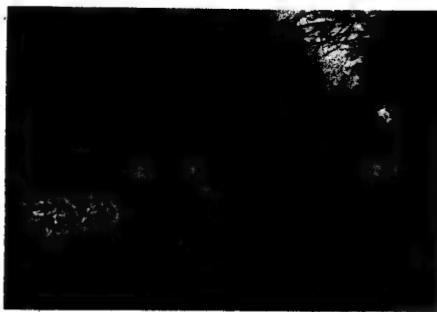
cock. All the flesh had been eaten from the neck and large chunks had been torn from its breast and shoulders.

I wonder whether you or any of your readers can confirm whether this is a normal method of striking among peregrines or goshawks.—R. W. NIVEN (Major), Frontier Force Rifles, New Delhi, India.

[Although the peregrine normally deals its prey a knockout blow, so that it falls stunned or killed to the ground, it will occasionally "bind" to its prey, a phenomenon first noted about hawking and as we have seen happen when hawking rooks. The goshawk nearly always "binds" to its victim and falls with it to the ground.—ED.]

WHERE PIT-PROPS COME FROM

SIR.—A recent reference in COUNTRY LIFE to pit-props and the type of wood



from which they come prompts me to send you the enclosed photographs of pit-prop woodland. One shows the forest of Mynydd-ddu in the Black Mountains, where the trees have still to grow to pit-prop size, for nothing had been planted there fifteen years ago. The other portrays a horticultural cutting with a portable saw, the first pit-prop from thinning of a 22-year-old Scotch pine plantation at Rendlesham Forest, which is in Suffolk, a few miles north of the Suffolk Woodbridge. The small forest of Mynydd-ddu is in the valley immediately west of Llanthony Abbey; a road that divides the forest into two marks the boundary between Monmouthshire and Brecknock and the pit-props grown there will obviously go to the South Wales coalfields.

In a pre-war magazine I last month chance upon an interesting reference to pit-props for South Wales. The writer said that imported props of maritime pine had always been used in the larger coalfields. When no good home-grown props of sweet chestnut were offered by a grower in South Wales, they were refused, and the bayers preferred to have the

imported maritime pine at double the price asked for the chestnut. How preferences and prices may compare now I do not know, but during the war the chestnut mines were reduced to using birch props. So the quick-fish of the 1930s were probably discredited.—SYLVATICUS, Berkshire.

LIFE IN AN ALMS-HOUSE

SIR.—It was recently mentioned in COUNTRY LIFE that in alms-houses people of very small means might enjoy spacious and dignified architecture. The accompanying photograph of the almshouses at Goring Heath, Oxfordshire, may be of interest in this connection, especially since it also illustrates another point.

The site is relatively lonely, and some inhabitants have in the past complained that there is no one to talk to and nothing to watch. This is the kind of thing that theorists with a diverse background are apt to forget. In a small almshouse a forester was congratulated on the magnificent view from his cottage windows. He replied: "Yes, but we can't eat the view for breakfast."



ALMS-HOUSES AT GORING HEATH, OXFORDSHIRE

See letter: *Life in an Almshouse*

SOURCES OF PIT-PROPS : THE FOREST OF MYNYDD-DDU, IN THE BLACK MOUNTAINS. (Left) CUTTING WOODSTOCKS FROM PINE IN RENDLESHAM FOREST, SUFFOLK

See letter: *Where Pit-props Come From*

This is no argument against providing good almshouse architecture or beautiful views for the foresters, but merely to remind us that values sometimes differ and that most uneducated people care much less for beauty than for electric light or relayed television.—JOHN WARD, Abingdon, Berkshire.

PAINTINGS ON THE FORE-EDGE OF BOOKS

SIR.—While not wishing to throw doubt on the authenticity of the painting of a fine almshouse on the fore-edge of a book of Jim Hurdin's poems, illustrated in your issue of May 9, I should like to point out that there is a modern "factory" turning out fore-edge paintings. Anything may be put on, irrespective of the contents of the book.

It is usually possible to tell the modern ones, since the colours are either brighter than they should be, or so dull (brownish) as to look too antique.—A. EHRMAN, Clobb Copse, Beaulieu, Hampshire.

BLUE TITS NESTING IN A LETTER-BOX

SIR.—Last year and this year a blue tit built her nest in my office letter-box, which is situated on the wall of the office, measures about 11 ins. x 6 ins.

When the nest was started last year I told the postman not to drop letters in the box, so that the bird was not disturbed, and it was very interesting to watch the formation of the nest, the laying of the eggs and the successful rearing of no fewer than 11 young.

My staff used repeatedly to argue about the number of eggs laid in one day, so this year I decided that if the bird returned to the nest in the box I would keep a very watchful eye and try to determine exactly how many eggs could be laid in one day.

Sure enough, a month or so ago, and barely a week after the old nest was removed, another one was started, most probably by the same bird or one of her young. This nest was watched daily and "me" both in the evenings and in the evenings, and when I looked at it one evening about 5.30 I could see that it was completed but contained no eggs. The next morning at about 9.30 the box contained 9 eggs.—W. F. C. STEARS, Chard Junction, Somerset.

Flowers for Sick Children.—The Princess Louise Kensington Hospital for Children is appealing for funds to bring the children's cards and for magazines for the nurses. Any reader who is willing to offer either should get into touch with me.—FRANK HARR, Secretary-Superintendent, The Princess Louise Kensington Hospital for Children, St. Quintin Avenue, W.10.

NEW CARS DESCRIBED

THE HUMBER SNIPE

By J. EASON GIBSON

THE Humber Snipe is probably the best-known model in the Humber range, but it is nevertheless of interest to examine how this firm's various models fit variable demands. To disregard for the moment the largest model, the Pullman, which was described in COUNTRY LIFE on January 3, the firm's range consists of the Hawk, Snipe and Super Snipe. On all three of these models the chassis specification and general body dimensions are practically identical, the only major difference being that of the different sizes of engine—in order, 14, 18 and 27 horse-power. It will be realised therefore that while the carrying capacity and degree of comfort provided will be similar, the performance and, of course, the cost of running will vary appreciably. All three models are easily capable of carrying four passengers, and their luggage, over extended distances in ease and comfort. It is left to the prospective purchaser to decide how much performance he requires, bearing in mind the increased cost of running on the larger-engined models. In effect, the manufacturers provide a choice of three engines in the same car, and this must assist greatly in cutting wastage in manufacture, and increase the speed of production.

The model under review, the 18 h.p. Snipe, is of straightforward design throughout and embodies no startling innovations. The engine of this model is quite new, although its design follows the well-tried lines of previous models from this firm. The chassis is of box-section throughout its length, and is cruciform braced. Apart from a tubular frame, this method of construction gives the greatest torsional rigidity, which is essential when independent suspension is employed, as it is on all Humber models. In addition, there are cross members in both the front and the rear of the chassis. The form of suspension is independent at the front, with wishbones and coil-sprung independent spring, while at the rear it is semi-elliptic mounted on a beam. Suspension is assisted all round by Girling shock absorbers of the pressure recuperation type, and in addition the rear suspension has a torsional stabilising rod, to prevent sway on corners under severe driving conditions. The brakes are Lockheed hydraulic operating in 11 in. drums, and providing the good figure of 94.8 square inches of brake lining per ton.

The engine is of straightforward design, employing six cylinders with side-by-side valves, and gives a power output of 6.6 b.h.p. at the relatively low engine speed of 3,500 r.p.m. A mechanically safe cruising speed with this engine should be just over 55 m.p.h., which on a car of this type will give effortless motoring. Mixture

is controlled by a down-draught Stromberg carburettor, which embodies an automatic mixture control, rendering a separate choke unnecessary. All component parts of the engine are easily reached for maintenance, with the possible exception of the dip-stick, which would benefit from being lengthened and set at a slightly different angle. The battery is carried under the bonnet, and can be readily removed if required. In spite of the generally low appearance of the car, the ground clearance has not been sacrificed; the figure is 7½ inches, which should be ample, even under semi-colonial conditions.

A particularly noteworthy point, which I have previously mentioned about other Humber products, is the very good luggage space provided;

ance exceeded the ability of the chassis to cope with it; or else the comfort was of a very high order, but the car was very poor. Objections such as these do not apply to the Humber Snipe, as its performance, comfort and safety appear to me to be in proportion. In accordance with the normal practice on my road tests, the car was consistently overdriven, both on fast main roads and under colonial conditions, and at no time did it fail to respond to the requirements. On suitable main roads the engine settled down at the equivalent to a road speed of 58 m.p.h.

The Lockheed brakes are not only effective should an emergency stop be necessary, but are pleasantly light in operation, and progressive.



THE 18 H.P. HUMBER SNIPE SALOON

it is definitely in proportion to the passenger-carrying capacity. The bodywork gives the impression of being soundly constructed, and no effort has been made to copy transatlantic designs towards ornamentation, which so often appear vulgar to our eyes. Ample provision is made for adequate ventilation of the body.

Swivelling panels are fitted to both front doors, and both rear quarter-lights are easily extended on arms. The use of these ensures extraction of all stale air, and in unusually hot weather they can be turned through 90 degrees to act as very effective air scoops. The front windscreen can be opened to a completely horizontal position, which can be of great help in both fog and excessively hot climates. The doors are of sufficient width to make entry and exit easy, and the lack of a running board is not likely to prove an inconvenience. The internal body dimensions are of interest. The width across the rear seats is 32 inches, measured over the arms, while in the figure inside the armrests is 45 inches. The distance from the rear cushion to the roof is 38 inches, and from the floor to the roof 47 inches. The amount of leg room provided for the rear passengers is ample, being 18½ ins. with the front seat at its farthest forward point, and as much as 11 inches with the front seat right back. As an added comfort, the steering column is adjustable for length; this, allied with adjustable pedestal and front seats which are adjustable over a wide range, should make the driving position comfortable for people of widely varying build and leg length. The actual dimensions of the luggage space are 39 by 26 by 25 ins., and, since the boot lid is hinged at the top, filling it is an easy operation.

On actual test it was found that the theoretically possible performance was very closely approached; indeed, in some respects it was surpassed. In previous articles I have used the expression a balanced design, and the model under review certainly merits this description. For readers not familiar with this phrase, I would describe a balanced design as one in which no individual feature has been overstressed. In the past there have been certain cars (there are few to-day) in which the perform-

under more normal driving conditions. The system of ventilation works well, and will be found most useful by those families half of whose members are heavy smokers, whereas the other half detest tobacco. The dipping switch is mounted on the steering-wheel centre, instead of being operated by the more usual foot control, and I found that this method has many advantages. For fast driving I would personally prefer the steering to be more highly geared, and more positive, even if this entailed sacrificing some of the lightness of control at lower speeds. The advantages of the larger engine fitted to the Snipe become more apparent if the performance figures are studied. For example, the time from 0-60 on the Hawk is 37.5 seconds, while the same acceleration figure on the Snipe shows an improvement of 9 seconds. With careful driving the quoted petrol consumption of 18 m.p.g. could probably be improved slightly. The sensible capacity of the tank will be useful on long runs, giving quite a good range on one filling. The automatic mixture control gives instant starting, and a fast tick-over for warming up; there is thus no manual control that is apt to be forgotten, with a consequent danger of cylinder wear being increased.

The period of very severe weather reminded most of us of the deficiencies of car equipment under such conditions. There are still very few cars with de-frosters or heaters as standard fittings and, while these items may not be required often, under real winter conditions they are essential. When one remembers the amount of heat that is inevitably wasted on a motor-car, it is difficult to realise why it should be necessary to add coats and scarves to drive a saloon car—which by its name implies that it should be as comfortable as one's home. An efficient form of de-froster and heater is included when the car is built; need add but little to the total cost; it will certainly add greatly to the comfort and peace of mind of the motorist. Trickle chargers as a component part of the car are a development that will also come; when they do the constant worry about starting under adverse conditions can be forgotten.

THE HUMBER SNIPE

Makers: Humber Ltd., Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Coventry

SPECIFICATION

Price ..	£393	18 h.p. 4d.	Reverse ..	18.33 to 1
including £204 18s. 4d.			Final drive	Sprial bevel
purchase tax			Brakes	Lockheed
Tax ..	£28		Suspension	Independent
Cubic Cap. ..	2,731.5 c.c.		Wheelsbase	9 ft. 6 in. (front)
B. & S. ..	60.6x120 mm.		Track (front)	4 ft. 11 in.
Cylinders	Six		Track (rear)	4 ft. 8 in.
Valves	Side by side		Overall length	15 ft.
B.H.P. ..	18 at 3,500 r.p.m.		Overall width	5 ft. 9 in.
Carb.	Stromberg		Overall height	5 ft. 3 in.
Ignition	Lam. coil		Ground clearance	7½ in.
Oil filter	Automatic gauge		Turning circle	40 ft. 6 in.
1st gear ..	18.35 to 1		2nd gear ..	21 cwt.
2nd gear ..	11.58 to 1		Fuel cap.	14 gallons
3rd gear ..	6.62 to 1		Oil cap.	12 gallons
4th gear ..	4.67 to 1		Water cap.	2 gallons
			Tyre size	6.00 x 18

PERFORMANCE

Acceleration	secs.	secs.	Maximum speed:	
10-30	Top 9.9	3rd 6.0	70.5 m.p.h.	
30-40	Top 10.6	3rd 7.5	75 m.p.h. at average speed of	19
0-60	All gears 28.5	40 m.p.h.		

BRAKES

30-0 ..	14.9 feet	89 per cent. efficiency on	
30-0 ..	33.5 feet	dry concrete road.	
40-0 ..	59.6 feet		

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Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

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111

MARY SHIPMAN, the daughter of a Massachusetts Congregational minister, married Aristide Mian, a French sculptor who had lived for some years in America. Before the war she and he visited his parents in the French granite country of Le Creusé, near Limoges. It is a countryside not much known to tourists, a countryside that boasts of making the finest masons in the world. The men, mostly, go off to build cities, returning only for holidays or to die, and most of the village life is patriarchal.

Mary Mian gives us a lovely picture of it in *My Country-in-Law*

The life these people lived, "as slow and deep as the earth," was free of illusion. It was lived in the conviction that it was "a serious business, and should be worked at. A little happiness may spring up along the way, but the work that counts." Few tools were bought, and, if something was lacking, why, it could always be "invented." Papa Géne was the great one for inventions. During a rare visit to Paris, it was one of his complaints: "In Paris there was nothing to invent; if you wanted something you went out and bought it, and that wasn't his idea of life at all."

MY COUNTRY-IN-LAW. By Mary Mian

(Michael Joseph, 10s. 6d.)

A VICTORIAN ALBUM, SOME LADY NOVELISTS OF THE PERIOD.

By Lucy Poate Stobbs
(Secker and Warburg, 12s. 6d.)

P.Q. 17, A STORY OF A SHIP. By Godfrey Winn

(Hutchinson, 12s. 6d.)

(Michael Joseph, 10s. 6d.) It is a book by an exceptionally talented writer. The strokes are all deft and telling. It is not overburdened with detail, but one feels that nothing has been left out that was necessary to bring before us a hard country and a hardy people. It makes us think of Daudet's *Letters de Mon Moulin*.

NO TOURISTS' COUNTRY

No: decidedly not a tourists' country. "No church. No stores, no post-office. For these you must walk to St. Marc-la-Montagne, three miles away over the hills. No electricity or running water. Each farm had its well, its washing-pool, its stone oven for bread, its massive pile, and its out-house of a model which was venerable in the days of the Sun-temple." It is a place of "sprawling, unkempt fields, ugly-looking but solid stone farm-houses, stone walls, pines."

The people are as granite as their land, and Mrs. Mian's book brings them alive with vigour. There was "La Mère Marie." "I found myself before an old woman, heavy and squat, in shapeless black clothes, faded and streaked, and a square-cut black bonnet, somewhat episcopal in outline." Like the other villagers, she was scandalised when Mrs. Mian's husband, asked what was the profession of his wife's father, replied: "He's a curd." "They always felt there was something a little strange about my parentage," so that it was small wonder when La Mère Marie asked: "And what does he think, your father, of the Blessed Virgin?"

But Mrs. Mian managed to get accepted by the family, even though she was bringing up her baby on the maxims of an American manual of motherhood. Sun-baths horrified Maman Marie; the thought of the child lying naked and alone under a tree filled her with apprehension. "The fox may get her. It has happened before," she said grimly.

The book ends with the younger Mians back in America and war come to France. We read of an ancient Breton woman coming as a refugee to the farm in the Creuse and telling the old Mian people of all the disasters two wars had brought to her life. "You have great courage, Madam," someone said to her; and she answered simply: "I have the habit of it now." This might be the epitaph of the people of the Creuse. They have learned, without fuss, to make a habit of courage.

WOMAN NOVELISTS ANALYSED

Mrs. Lucy Poate Stobbs, the American author of *A Victorian Album, Some Lady Novelists of the Period* (Secker and Warburg, 12s. 6d.)

says that at the root of most fiction writing lies "the desire to confess." This is a statement about which a good deal could be said, for and against. For myself, I think that while it is obviously true of much fiction, to say that it is true of "most" is going too far.

However, this book is based on the theory that all the woman novelists here considered can be "unveiled" by a proper consideration of what they wrote. The author confesses that her purpose is "to discover trammeled souls." The women she considers—Charlotte Brontë, Mrs. Gaskell, George Eliot, and many others—"represent a group without precedent or parallel in literary history." All were women of uncommon intelligence, capable of understanding philosophical concepts, and yet so subservient to religious dogmas and to masculine domination that very few of them ventured into realms of abstract thought. . . . The intellectual and social significance of the bulk of their novels is negligible.

One can only put the vulgar question: So what? Given the fragrance of *Cranford*, the passion of *Viviette*, the humanity of *The Mill on the Floss*, does one wish that, instead,



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one had "intellectual and social significance"? Is it any part of a novelist's job to "venture into realms of abstract thought"? He may, and he may even make something out of the venture, but, generally speaking, a novelist is well content and well advised to leave that to the philosophers. So Mrs. Stebbins's book seems to me to be a search for something which is no essential part of a novelist's ingredients. That she has failed to find it magnifies rather than decreases the status of these "lady novelists of the period."

CONVOY TO RUSSIA

Before Mr. Godfrey Winn joined the Navy as an ordinary seaman he had discovered something of its work by making voyages as a journalist. The most notable of these was in the *Posarica* (P.Q. 17), which was one of the ships escorting a convoy from Iceland to Archangel. Something of the story of P.Q. 17 has become known, but censorship has kept many details private. Now Mr. Winn tells the full tale in *P.Q. 17, A Story of the Ship* (Hutchinson, 12s. 6d.).

This is not the story of that tragically celebrated convoy that set out from Iceland 38 ships strong, of which only 11 got through. It is the story of one of the guardian ships, of what she did and suffered, of the men in her, of their faith and long and laborious toil. It was a summer convoy. The choice of horror on that job was limited. You could sail in summer and so be visible all the time to enemy aircraft, submarines and surface craft; or you could sail in winter, diminishing those dangers but enduring the bite of the weather. In neither case could you count on air-support. Sir Giffard Martel has told in *The Russian Outlook* how we tried to arrange with the Russians for our own squadrons to give air support from Russian bases, for hospitals to be set up in Russia, and how the Russians would not help in these matters. And so, says the summer convoys had to be dropped, "but the Russians continued to abuse us for not running convoys that summer."

SUICIDAL EFFORTS

That this unsympathetic attitude existed is now no secret. Mr. Winn brings confirmation. He tells how the captain of P.Q. 17, when at last the fearful journey was done, reported to the Russian Admiral commanding the White Sea. "The Englishman waited for the translation, expecting naturally an expression of regret, encouragement, too, for the suicidal efforts made by the Americans and British to keep the northern supply route open at that time of the year, with no cover of protective darkness." This was the translation: "You should send bigger convoys, and you should provide better means of protection. There should be fighter cover the whole way."

The captain said to Mr. Winn that what really distressed him was that he did not think the admiral believed his story of the heavy losses. "They imagine that's a diplomatic lie, but put out for propaganda purposes."

"In any case," replied Mr. Winn, "the ordinary Russians would have no idea of the real state of the balance sheet. I mean, they just see a few ships struggle in, and are completely unimpressed by our efforts, and equally unconscious of our losses. I wonder if they will ever know the truth?"

Who can say? Here, at any rate, is the truth, in all its tragical simpli-

city and fullness. Mr. Winn is an emotional writer, and the emotional way is one way, and a good way, of telling this particular story. The war has altogether increased this writer's stature. It was almost by chance that he found himself involved in the voyage of the P.Q. 17, but it was a lucky chance: it has given the ship a name and a monument.

SUSSEX SEEN FRESH

Sussex, by Esther Meynell (Robert Hale, 15s.), the first of a series of books about the several English counties and about Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, has two obvious faults: certain of its photographs are less clear than they should be and the accompanying map bears no contour marks without which one can form little idea of the physical features of its subject. That said, however, it is undeniable that Mrs. Meynell has set her successors in the series a high standard. The impressions of Sussex that she gives are markedly her own—the author's enthusiasm for the people and natural beauties of the county and of a close interest in its history and pre-history. It is, if one may borrow an image from the science of archaeology, of which she is a keen student, as if she had a number of trial trenches across the county of Sussex and interpreted what she found there in the light of her own interests and knowledge. The result is a book that is as fascinating as the ordinary run of guide-books are dull and as varied as the land of sea, sky and down of hills will allow.

One of the most delightful roads in Sussex is that which runs along the foot of the downs from Lewes to Clayton, and in *A Sussex Highway* (The Epworth Press, 7s. 6d.) Ruth Cobb tells, with the aid of attractive drawings done *en route*, of what she saw and what befell her during a tramp along it.

J. K. A.

BIRDS OF THE PACIFIC

ONE of the Pacific bird series of publications, published under the auspices of the American Committee for International Wild Life Protection, *Birds of the Philippines* (Macmillan, 18s.) by Jean Delacour and Ernst Mayr deals with the fauna of this remarkable interesting part of the globe. The authors succeed in an excellent manner, each species being briefly described and many of them being illustrated with black and white sketches. Some 450 species occur in these islands and they embrace many varied types.

Articulates of the Air (Williams and Norgate, 30s.), on the contrary, Capt. C. W. R. Knight is concerned with a few birds well known to the stay-at-home Englishman, though not less important for that. He writes of eagles, herons, owls and woodpeckers among others, and lastly of falconry, one of his favourite sports of falconry. He is ever interesting, the interest being enhanced by the many examples of his camera work used as illustrations. The colour photograph of a heron at the nest that appears on the jacket of the book and is used as a frontispiece is an especially fine picture. F. P.

LAVISH COLOUR

LIKE so many books published in America, *Garden Bulbs in Colour*, by McFarlane, Hart and Foley (Macmillan, 18s.), arrives with a feeling of awe at the lavish use of colour, the quality of the paper and many other things so sadly lacking in our austerity publications. But on closer examination, that feeling ebbs. Too many of the colour reproductions are of a calendar quality and a pleasure to the eye would be had more than dimmed more important than fidelity to Nature. Nor are there any hitherto unfigured subjects to add to the appeal.

D. T. McF.

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FARMING NOTES

ADVICE FOR FARMERS

PAINFULLY the new Agricultural Advisory Service is taking form. Mr. Tom Williams claims that it is now fully operational though not yet at full strength. The names of the head men on the livestock side have now been announced. They are designated Provincial Livestock Husbandry Officers, and the team includes, I am glad to know, men of such repute as Mr. James MacLennan, who has come from east Province, and Mr. Austin Jenkins in the South-west. The Provincial Crop Husbandry Advisors include Dr. D. H. Robinson, who is in the West Midlands, and Mr. W. D. Hay, who has gone from Somerset to the South-east. Provincial and headmen are Rating. The job of these head men in the Provinces is to coordinate the local advisory work in the counties, and I hope that they will keep in the closest touch with the C.W.A.E.C.s. Unless the advisory team carries the good will of practical farmers with it, the new and improved advisory service will be no better than a bureaucratic limb of Whitehall. The service is at present a third below strength. This is perhaps all to the good, leaving plenty of places for likely men returned from the Services who are now taking technical posts at agricultural universities. The idea of becoming a civil servant has not appealed to all those whose advice the farmer respects. Some have preferred to take up teaching posts at agricultural colleges and some have become technical advisers to industrial firms who have agricultural requirements. It was, I think, Mr. Hudson, when he was Minister of Agriculture, who laid the foundations of this National Agricultural Advisory Service. He thought that if it became a national service under the Ministry every county, rich and poor, enlightened and unenlightened, would get a fair share of technical advice. But I know that many people feel, as I do, that the Advisory Service would probably have a better spirit and more readily win the full confidence of farmers if it were built up on the universities, as it is in many countries abroad, rather than being made directly subservient to Whitehall.

Gassing Rats

FARMERS who want to use gassing powder for destroying rats and rabbits can buy their supplies at half price if they apply for a certificate to the C.W.A.E.C. A 1 lb. tin of the powder costs 1s. 6d. and under this arrangement can be got for twelve shillings, and this is sufficient to treat some 300 to 400 rat-holes or 80 to 100 rabbit-holes. Gassing should not be carried out in buildings that are in use or in places where food is stored or dormitories where people sleep. I am not keen on this spoon-feeding of farmers by these odd sub-sidies to entice us to carry out pest destruction or fumigating which we should do in the ordinary course of good husbandry. Is it not much better for the Government to see that farm produce is produced at a reasonable price, and then expect us to do our job properly, including the destruction of rats and rabbits which interfere with full production?

Italians Coming Back

SOME of the Italian prisoners-of-war who went back to their country last year have been considerably unhappy, having to leave their families behind. They have written to their former employers who billeted them on their farms and in the cases are straightforward the Ministry of Labour is allowing them to take up

farm work here again. It is the Foreign Labour division of the Ministry of Labour at 10, Whitehall, W.C.1. that deals with these cases. There are also some Italian prisoners who have never returned home. They are working here on permits which expire at the end of June. If any Italian in this category wants to stay on, and the farmer wants to keep him, arrangements can be made through the C.W.A.E.C. for the permit to be renewed. There are also some German prisoners who are staying on after their repatriation date, but, so far as I have been able to discover, no arrangements have yet been made for Germans who returned home to see their families to come back again.

American Milk Yields

ALTHOUGH there were two per cent fewer dairy cows on American farms in the first quarter of this year, they gave nearly three per cent more milk than in the corresponding period last year. The United States Department of Agriculture declares that this reflects a long-term trend of improved dairy cow quality promoted by the herd improvement associations, cow testing, the use of improved sires and the culling of low milk producers. It is not clear whether this has come in squares in this country. Can the Milk Marketing Board give any information? We should be seeing by now a gradual increase in milk yields. The winter was hard, good hay was short, but I like to think that our cows are improving each year.

Wise Saws

BY my bedside I have W. S. Mansfield's *The Farmer's Friend, or Wise Saws and Modern Instances*. I enjoy the interpretation he gives of many sayings that are still current. We do not always get them in exact phrasology, but the idea is the same. He quotes by way of example the same. I like this tribute to the value of experience: "if your farm is manned with boys and horses with colts, your food is all eaten and your work undone." This goes with the saying that if you employ one boy you will have one boy to look after, but if you employ two boys you will have only half a boy, and if you employ three you won't have a boy at all. To have no horses except colts would be equally unfortunate; you would have no shaft horses, and no experience horses for horse-hoeing and other tasks in which a horse must know how to walk round. Mr. Mansfield's collection of wise saws is published by the Cambridge University Press, price 6s. Many of them have appeared in COUNTRY LIFE.

Mount Hope

I HAVE been reading in an American monthly, called *Agricultural History*, more about Mount Hope, Massachusetts, and its dairy cattle. Mr. E. Parmalee Prentiss tells of the pioneer work in progeny testing breeding carried out for the last thirty years at Mount Hope in developing the index system of breeding. It didn't tell all the story, however, of the performance of his offspring. Let Mr. Prentiss declare his opinion in his own words. "There are not many very great animals in any country, but we have our full share of fine breeding stock right here in America, and so, I think that, if we bring all about the story of the pure-bred cattle, the chief part of the pure-bred cattle and the romance of American inferiority, and if we make together the stock that has the best and the highest producing offspring, we will have the best dairy stock the world has ever known."

CINCINNATI.

ESTATE MARKET

LARGE ACREAGES IN THE MARKET

THE most significant feature of the estate market at the moment is the fact that the larger owners are contemplating the reduction of their acreages. In the next few weeks one firm of agents, Messrs. John D. Wood and Co., will probably bring under the hammer approximately 25 square miles of residential and agricultural freehold, Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley are also of the same estate; and other agents are arranging for the realisation of important properties. Generally speaking, the offers are for the most part being attended with success, and tenants are conspicuous among the buyers.

PURCHASES BY PUBLIC BODIES

COUNTY Councils and urban Corporations are taking over land, and Government Departments, including the new National Coal Board, are buying manors for conversion into offices. Less agreeable, from the point of view of neighbouring amenity, is the acquisition of one or two properties for use in the detention or training of lawbreakers. The R.A.F. and various training centres, including freeholds and mansions have been sold to insurance companies and banks for conversion into establishments for the systematic study by their staffs of the principles and practice of their work. When to these and similar transactions are added the vastly increased number of properties in the National Trust, it will be seen that a change is coming over the countryside, and that the old order is giving way to a new one.

WELL-KNOWN VENDORS OFFER ESTATES

R. T. O. M. SOPWITH is about to sell the Little Green estate, 3,760 acres, near Chichester, Sussex; about 555 acres of Gatton Park estate, Reigate, Surrey, will be offered on behalf of Sir Jeremias Colman, Bt.; and Colonel George P. Pollett intends to dispose of Hartfield Park, 913 acres, near Shoreham. Mr. Clares Sheridan has requested Messrs. John D. Wood and Co., who are conducting the aforementioned auctions, to co-operate with Messrs. Geering and Colyer in selling Breda Place with 55 acres, close to Rye, Sussex. Trustees are the vendors of Glynn estate, Bodmin, Cornwall, 4,465 acres.

In addition to Launde Abbey and 1,585 acres, near Oakham, Rutland, for sale on June 17, Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley are to offer Baydon Manor, 3,000 acres, at Ramsey, on the border of Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire, and the Great Lower Susten, 336 acres along the Ouse. Messrs. Jackson-Stops and Staff's list includes an Essex estate of 566 acres, with Dengie Manor, a Queen Anne house, between the estuaries of the Crouch and the Blackwater, six miles from Burnham-on-Crouch.

LORD ST. VINCENT'S SALE

THE Sutton-upon-Derwent, Yorkshire, estate of Lord St. Vincent was dealt with in lots by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, at York, after it had been withdrawn as a whole. The Service, St. Vincent's hands brought over £66,000 under the hammer, and the agents inform us that subsequent sales have raised the total to nearly £72,000, for 1,764 acres. Four miles of fishing in the Derwent were privately sold just after the auction. Tenants and all the companies are among the bidders at York. The Manor Farm, 336 acres, changed hands at £1,500.

A Warwickshire mansion, Avon

Carrow, at Avon Dassett, has been sold by the executors of Baron Pechell. A local correspondent says that the buyer intends to use part of the mansion for his own residence and to adapt part as a maternity ward and another part as rooms for villagers who are too old to cope with the task of maintaining cottages.

Arlington Manor, near Newbury, Berkshire, has been sold, for approximately £21,000, to the Royal Home Grammar School for Deaf Children.

The mansion of Easthampstead Park, recently stated to have been acquired by Berkshire County Council for use as a college for women teachers, has unhappily been damaged by fire.

THE TEAK HOUSE, BOURNEMOUTH

THE Teak House, the Avenue, Branksome, Bournemouth, a freehold the rateable value of which is £2651 per year, on a general rate of 18s. 10d., for £5, has been sold for £21,250, by Messrs. Fox and Sons. It stands in 9 acres of secluded gardens, which have paved terraces commanding a view of the sea, and there are three cottages. The property has never been held by any of the Services, and it has been carefully maintained since the late owner's death. The distinctive feature of the house is indicated by its name, for the principal rooms on the ground floor are panelled with teak, and the doors and much of the timbering throughout is teak. A particular and valuable characteristic of teak is that it does not split, crack, warp, shrink or alter its shape when once seasoned, and though it is hard that it is used in shipbuilding, railways and docks, it is easily worked and takes a high polish.

Messrs. Fox and Sons have also sold Whitehills, a freehold in Elgin Road, Bournemouth, for £8,250. It was built 20 years ago, and the gardens have a private gate to Meyrick Park golf course. A block of eight freehold flats in Vale Road, East Cliff, made £11,100. The gross rents are £1,010 a year, and the net rents, after letting to £449 a year, include rates £224, and, roundly, water £31, coal £137, electricity £22, and stoker's wages £78.

Captain and Mrs. H. W. Bawbury have sold The Woodlands, with 60 acres, at Mildenhall, Suffolk, nine miles from Newmarket, to Captain D'Anvers White. Mr. Norman J. Hodgkinson (Messrs. Bidwell and Sons) was their agent.

PROPERTY RETAINED FOR OFFICIAL USE

THE Select Committee on Estates, appointed last year to suggest departmental economies, reporting to Parliament, give some astonishing figures of the vast amount of accommodation still retained for official use, and suggest that careful consideration should be given to the possibility of reducing the cost and releasing requisitioned property. Civil Service holds 96,000 small houses and flats, 316 hotels, 105 schools and nearly 10,000 other premises, in all, over 106,000; and the Services hold 1,133 houses and flats, 117 hotels, 20 schools and 3,134 other premises, in all, over 4,400. Including the cost of returning to the proprietors, the State outlay this year will be more than £20,000,000. It would have lent added interest to the Committee's findings if they could have stated how many of the requisitioned properties are not at present in use. The Committee also enquires as to whether the Services really do require all the land that they claim for training and suggest that Service holdings might be cut down.

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ASCOT FASHIONS

ASCOT dresses are mostly of the new mid-calf length. The ankle-length dresses are few and far between, though they are being ordered by débutantes attending the Royal Garden Parties. The young people are wearing them at summer dances as well and like the novelty of a long dress for daytime. But for Ascot, a short, trim-looking dress is far and away smarter. It is the skirts that are slender as reeds that look the most elegant, either in black, lawn or biscuit crépe, or in printed crépes and in abstract patterns, usually a deep colour traced on a pale ground. Sleeves are very short and cap-shaped, often cut in one with the bodice and curved over the shoulder with hardly any padding; or caped and elbow length. Skirts are cut in petal curves, or tucked or draped over to one side.

Interest is concentrated on the neckline of these dresses; they range from high choker effects designed for a three or four-strand necklace of pearls, to a wide band that tucks in to the neckline that are cut away to deep Vs and wedge shapes almost as low as an evening dress. The colours on the whole are not very bright to throw up the flower-laden hats, which are often extremely bright. Moiré makes crisp suits, mostly black; organdie and embroidered Swiss muslin are materials for the ankle-length dresses with picture skirts and ballooning elbow sleeves.

(Continued on page 1082)



● Natural colour linen straw sunbonnet, black ribbon and red roses. Hugh Beaumont



● (Left) Malmsey print dress in biscuit yellows and browns, with tucks on the skirt and on the elbow sleeves, with a main colour coat and a white cartridge tied on with tulle

● (Below) Shiny white chip straw, elliptical hem, a cluster of white roses. Aage Thaarup



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The new mid-calf length of skirt requires a high heel to look smart. So do the large hats with elliptical brims worn tilted backwards over a chignon.

Collections of Ascot clothes are charming. A pure silk dress at Marshall and Snelgrove is extremely chic in black and white dotted surah. The dress is high and plain at the throat with the fashion-style brief sleeve and gauged over either side on the moulded hip-line. It has the new long skirt and it has been especially designed to wear with long wrinkled gloves and a large hat with flowers laid on the underside of the brim. A dress and jacket is equally charming, but more tailored looking, the dress with fullness concentrated in the front and a narrow neckband and bow and the jacket with a pleated peplum dipping at the back and cut away in the front. Another jacket suit is in a heavy marocain, bright as a parrot, with a pleated basque and a plain skirt, intended to be worn with a frilly blouse and a wide hat. Both these ensembles are in print, for the price is not to number the skirts this year. But Marshall & Snelgrove do show plain crepe as a dress with a jacket or a jumper suit.

The jumper suits are becoming with their soft, full bishop sleeves which can be worn wrist length or pushed up to make a cuffed elbow sleeve. These suits are in soft, rich shades, such as mossy green or old gold and are plain enough to look well with extremely frivolous horsehair and crinoline hats with a floppy pink rose or two tucked in the crown and tied on with tulle veiling. All the clothes this summer have these romantic touches and are more feminine than they have been for more than twenty years; although slender, the silhouette is one of curves broken by cascades.

AT Margaret Marks there are some lovely prints to choose from; the only problem is that of coupons. A cool, orchid grey print has line and wash drawings of Tudor period figures on it; a pearl grey matt crêpe has tiny wild flowers sprinkled all over it in bright colours. This dress has a dear little shoulder cape tying at one side. A scarlet and white printed dress with stags chasing one another all over is a very lively design. For



Black lines straw hat with open crown and cyclamen flowers and ribbons. Hugh Borwood

These both give the necessary balance to the new skirts.

By no means all the Ascot hats are large. There are bonnets and trimmings in tulle, straw, satin, moire, that are tied on with masses of foaming veiling that stream down on to the shoulders. Gertrude Harris is making hats and tiny bonnets in real flowers.

The prettiest of the tiny flower hats, whether real or artificial, are the all whites. They are being worn at London functions with matching print dresses, or with navy frocks that are cut in tiers with matching jackets or boleros, flashed with white piping with a butterfly bow at the throat. The flower hats, shaped like cock's-combs, are very becoming; so are the halos in shining straw or grosgrain in with the flowers—camellias, lilac or roses—massed over the right ear and dripping almost on to the shoulder. These are worn cocked to one side. Tiny bonnets swathed in tulle and wreathed in flowers are worn forward as well as backwards, usually on one side.

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cooler days, there is an excellent fine wool dress in a pastel shade, with a separate matching bolero. A navy blue wool dress trimmed with white piping has a spiral skirt in a doubled tiered effect which makes it look like a coat with six buttons fastening the bodice.

For a cold day at Ascot (and one knows what Ascot can be) the furriers have some charming wraps and boleros—a tiny silver fox shoulder cape from Molbo or a grey opossum jacket for a girl; a mink cape from the National Fur Co., with balloon sleeves worked horizontally. More exotic is a silver arctic fox jacket, nipped in at the waist—a cool silver colour which would look wonderful over a black frock or one of the new cinnamon browns. And one of the big successes of the summer is the corduroy coat which Miss Ford is making in biscuit and smoky blue.

Most of the afternoon shoes have a high spiky or Cuban heel. Lotus show one in nut-brown lizard decorated with a flat oblong with a narrow roll of lizard in the centre, also a sling-back shoe on a gold studded platform sole with a butterfly bow set just above the toe.

These both give the necessary balance to the new skirts.

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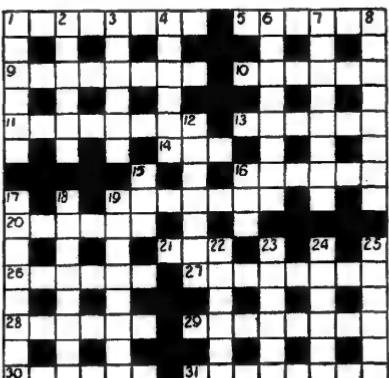
P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

CROSSWORD No. 904

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions in a closed envelope to "The Crossword", 20, Cavendish Square, London, W.1. Not later than the 12th June.

First post on Thursday, June 12, 1947.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



Name _____
(Mr., Mrs., etc.)
Address _____

SOLUTION TO NO. 903. The winner of this Crossword, the class of which appeared in the issue of May 30, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1. Crowded street; 8. S. Sea; 9. Mutabile; 12. Hour; 13. Half-wit; 14. Aque; 26. Retains; 27. Pallid; 28. Hammer and togs; 29. Sledge-hammer; 10. Built; 11. Christ Church; 14. Worthwhile; 16. Dan; 17. North Sea; 18. Alot; 21. Angling; 22. Roasted; 25. Clio.

1 and 5. A Fletcher still at work in an Oxfordshire town? (8, 6)

9. This for remembrance? (8)

10. Shops and their contents (8)

11. What, presumably, the surveyor does (8)

13. Beads? Sausages? Horses? (6)

14. All but an island up above (3)

16. Like a like and like an army?—at least, part of it? (8)

19. Does he answer on one leg? (7)

20. A fellow Latvian, perhaps, looking blue (6)

21. Pipe in the 14 (3)

26. In the eye or otherwise near it (6)

27. The board's supporters (8)

28. Wine takes up two-thirds of the game (6)

29. One way to give precedence (8)

30. "For a good sleep of health what — may we ask?"—Skele (6)

31. It may sound as though a new kind of engine had been installed, but throw that idea overboard (8)

DOWN

1. Heavenly twin in Northamptonshire (8)

2. For those who are, even getting ruined another was worse for no novel? (8)

3. Earth after war was death after life does greatly improve? (8)

4. Often sounds unselcome (8)

6. Why the undressing prize? (8)

7. Burn the (effig.) (8)

8. Born in the Maundy ceremony (8)

12. Old cooking vessel (7)

15. So in the end No. 31 does not remain empty (8)

16. It may put a nail to all proceedings (3)

17. Like a bird on the ground and left nothing standing? (8)

18. Best coal (anag.) (8)

19 and 22. The fruit of victory (8, 6)

23. Confirm that 31 was received in good order (8)

24. Nowadays overcoats and mackintoshes find a place with them (8)

25. Like the bird in reverse (8)

The winner of Crossword No. 902 is:

The Hon. Mrs. A. Erskine,

Lighthorne Rough,

Merton Morrell,

Warwickshire.



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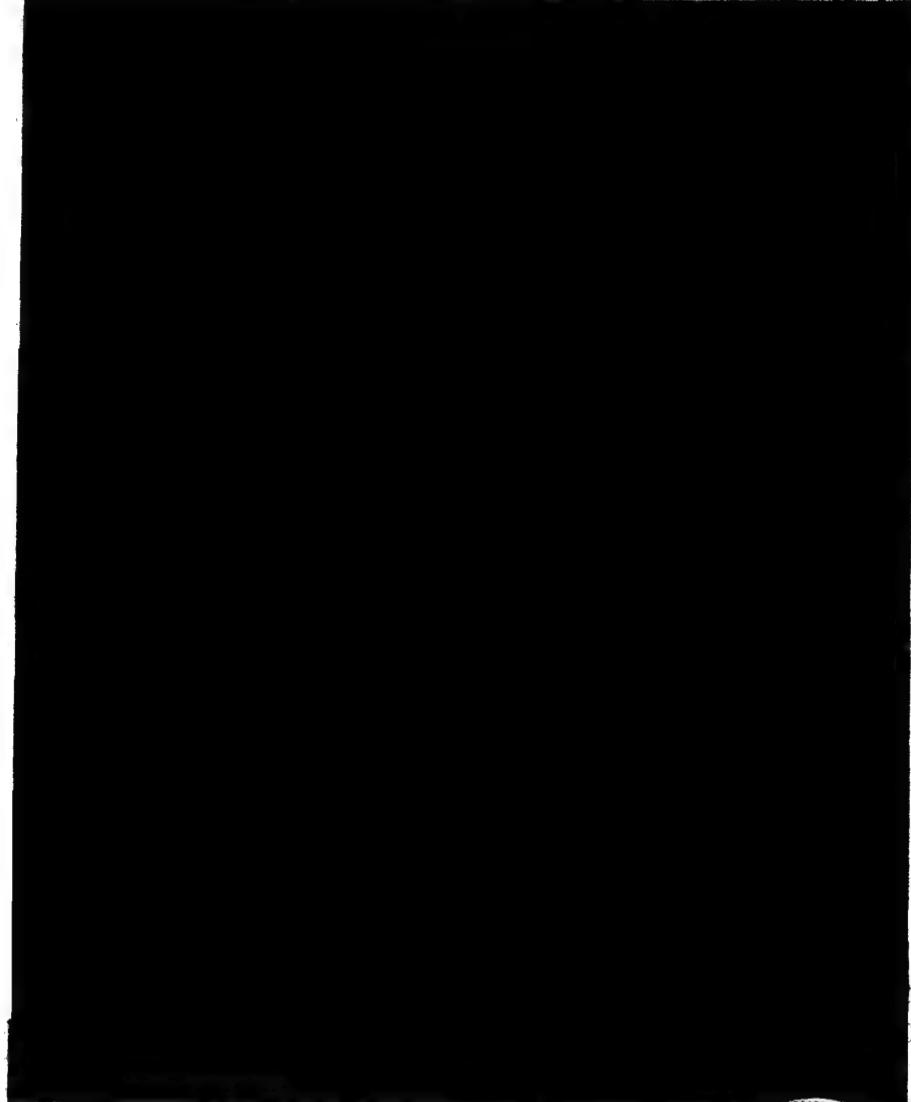


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Published every Friday for the Proprietors, COUNTRY LIFE, LTD., by GEORGE NEWNES, LTD., Tower House, London, W.C.2. Printed in England by THE PAINTERS, LTD., London and Watford. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper and for Canadian Postage Post. Entered as second class matter at the New York, U.S.A., Post Office, Post Agents, Australia and New Zealand, Gordon & Godwin (Asia) Ltd.; South Africa, Central News Agency, Ltd. Annual subscription rates (including postage): Ireland, 6s. 6d.; Canada, 6s. 6d.

Colour Photograph by John Hinde



DIANA WYNYARD, who was recently seen in "The Rossiters" at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, is photographed here in her earlier role of Dilys Parry in "The Wind of Heaven". Miss Wynyard is one of the lovely actresses who wears CLARKS SHOES.

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COUNTRYSIDE

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CI No. 2630

JUNE 13, 1947

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

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Rougemont Hotel, Exeter, on Friday, June 27, at
2.30 p.m. (unless previously sold).

Solicitors : Messrs. MAIDMENT, MORGAN & PALSER, 8, Hampshire

Terrace, Portsmouth.

Auctioneers : Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (Par. 1/-)

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

By direction of Sir George Warner, K.C.V.O., C.M.G.

BERKS AND OXON BORDERS

In the picturesque village of Sutton Courtenay. 2½ miles Abingdon
BUTTON COURTENEY HOUSE



For Sale by Auction in July (unless previously sold).
Solicitors: Messrs. PERRETT, GROHOLMEY, 26, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.E.
Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (Particulars 1/-.)

WALTON HEATH GOLF COURSE

(Adjacent).  Position 700 feet up
the Chiltern escarpment. wonderful views.



Well-arranged modern house, built to the designs of a well-known architect and approached by drive. Three reception, billiards, 14 bed, 2 dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. Complete offices. Central heating throughout. Main water and electricity. Garage for 4 cars. Outbuildings fine. Cortijo. Delightful grounds, large kitchen garden, fruit garden, orchard and vegetable gardens. For Sale Freehold. Vacant Possession.

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (16,797)

Mayfair 3771.
(16 lines)

A charming old-fashioned residence. Panelled lounge and dining room, 4 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 sitting rooms, compact office and servants' sitting room. Central heating. Main water and electricity. Charming garden, tennis court, summerhouse.

Main electric light, power, gas and water. Delightful matured gardens of 8½ ACRES. Garage for 3 cars. Stables for 4, and a pair of cottages. Central heating.

Two garages. Conservatory and greenhouses. About 1½ ACRES.

By direction of the Executors of the late Alderman A. E. Pepper, J.P.

ON THE SOUTH COAST

A Unique Seaside Residence

CROSSWAYS, FOLKESTONE

Large hall, 3 reception rooms, dining room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bath, 2 sitting rooms, compact office and servants' sitting room. Central heating. Main water and electricity. Charming garden, tennis court, summerhouse.

Two garages. Conservatory and greenhouses. About 1½ ACRES.

VACANT POSSESSION

ON COMPLETION

For Sale by Auction in July (unless previously sold).
Solicitors: Messrs. HOOKE & ALLIOTT, 27, Chelton Gardens, Folkestone.
Agents: Messrs. GEO. MILNE & CO. (Folkestone) LTD., 107, Sandgate Road, Folkestone; and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (Particulars 1/-.)

BERKSHIRE

BETWEEN WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD

With half-hourly bus service to both.

An attractive Small Modern Residence in a secluded position in the centre of its own garden.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bath/dressing room and second bathroom. Good cupboards.

Main electric light, power, gas and water. Telephone with extension. Garage for 2 cars.

BEAUTIFULLY LAID OUT GROUNDS.

Tennis and other lawns, herbaceous borders, kitchen gardens, ample fruit trees, woodland dell, ornamental pond and large paddock.

About 4 ACRES. For Sale Freehold.

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (45,667)

20. HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

ESSEX

SUFFOLK—CAMBS BORDERS

Cambridge 19 miles, Newmarket 17 miles, London 50 miles (1½ hours to City).



A charming Period House of the 16th century with oak half timbering and shallow tiled roof.

Hall, 3½ reception, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 sitting rooms with maid's room. Central heating. Electric light. 20s. water. Modern drainage. Double garage. Charming garden, orchard, lawn, vegetable garden, fruit trees, swimming pool, kitchen garden, croquet lawn and two fields.

About 7 ACRES. Freehold. Possession on completion. Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (45,670)

Telegrams:
"Gallerie, Wendo, London."

Reading 4441
Regent 0888/8377

1. STATION ROAD, READING, 4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1

Quite Fresh in the Market.

IN A FOLD OF THE WELL-WOODED CHILTERN

BETWEEN HENLEY-ON-THAMES AND MARLOW

In an isolated position on the outskirts of a beautiful Buckinghamshire village and handy for church, Post Office, village shop and bus route. High Wycombe 9 miles. London 35 miles.

A CHARMING REGENCY HOUSE

with its characteristically well-proportioned and lofty rooms, modernised, and with later additions.

Four reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms, 3 bath, 2 sitting rooms. Main electric light and power. Water pumped by electricity. Main water available. Garage for two cars, etc.

EXCEPTIONALLY LOVELY OLD-WORLD GROUNDS OF NEARLY TWO ACRES
richly timbered and intersected by a small stream

FOR SALE FREEHOLD £10,000

Sole Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS, Reading and London.

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1
(Euston 7800)

MAPLE & Co., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR, W.1
(Regent 4888)

"COLGRIMS," LYMPHINGTON

Adjoining the Solent and New Forest.

A modern Marine Residence

In 8 acres of Garden by the sea.

Five bed, 2 bath, 8 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bath, Garage 2 cars.

Possession on completion.

To be Sold by Public Auction, Wednesday, July 8, 1947

Offers to purchase privately beforehand are invited.

BUCKS.

Period House. 20 miles from London. Sympathetically restored.

Three reception rooms, modern kitchen, maid's sitting room, 4-5 bed, 3 bath.

Garage, Orchard, garden.

About 1 ACRE

FREESHOLD £8,000

Recommended by MAPLE & Co., Ltd., 5 Grafton Street, Bond Street, W.1.

Advertisement: MAPLE & Co., Ltd., 5, Grafton Street, Mayfair, W.1.

Second

Class

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

EAST DEVON

In a splendid position some 550 feet above sea level with due south aspect. Full sea view reach of Exeter.

A Delightful Residence of the Georgian Period

Hall, 2 reception, billiard-room, 12 bedrooms, 8 bathrooms. Own electricity. (Excellent water supply. Central heating. Stabling for 8. Garage.)

Well laid out gardens with lawns, tennis courts, walled kitchen garden, vineery, peach houses, etc., the whole including the delightful Residence known as

ABOUT 8 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,807)

WEST SUSSEX

About half a mile from the coast and within easy reach of Horsham, Chichester and Goodwood.

DELIGHTFUL OLD GEORGIAN FARMHOUSE

admirably situated in a secluded position.

Lounges hall, 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Attic room. Kitchen, larder, scullery, 2 sitting rooms and containing sitting-room, 2 bedrooms, bathroom.

Companions' electricity and water. Central heating.

Two garages, pigsty, outbuildings. Inexpensive gardens including kitchen garden, etc., in all

ABOUT 5 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £7,000. VACANT POSSESSION

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,765)

3, MOUNT ST., LONDON, W.1

ONE OF THE STATELY HOMES OF ENGLAND

of Great Historical Interest and Antiquity.

DORSET

6 miles from Dorchester, 12 miles Weymouth, 22 miles Bournemouth. 15th-Century Castle of rare architectural beauty in a wonderful state of preservation.

sympathetically restored and modernised whilst retaining all its original medieval features. Magnificent fireplaces and other paneling.

Banqueting hall, superb oriel and gallery, great hall, 4 reception rooms, 10 principal bedrooms, 9 bath and secondary accomodation. Central heating. Electric light. Stabling.

Garage, 5 cottages. Lovely old-world gardens and grounds in beautiful maturity.

Walled kitchen and fruit gardens.

Home farm with rich pasture and water meadows.

Farmhouse and 2 cottages.

Two miles of trout fishing.

Further particulars, apply owner's Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

By direction of owner.

SUSSEX COAST

High and healthy position in delightful rural setting, 2½ miles from the sea and handy for Goodwin Gulf Links.

DISTINCTIVE AND WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

Known as "Edgewood" Sidley, near Bexhill-on-Sea.

in first-class order and ready for immediate occupation.

6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, compact and airy, electric heating.

Central heating. Stabling.

Ample water supplies.

Garage, stabling. Pleasure craft moored in the sea.

in all about 5½ ACRES

Freehold for Sale by Auction on June 20 next (unless previously sold privately).

Solicitors: MESSRS. MURTON, CLARKE & MURTON, NEALE, Hawkhill, Joint Auctioneers, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, London Road, Bexhill-on-Sea (Tel. 3601/1); RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, W.1.

LOFTS & WARNER

41, BERKELEY SQ., LONDON, W.1. Gro. 3056

THREE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY AUCTION (UNLESS PREVIOUSLY SOLD PRIVATELY) ON THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1947, AT THE LONDON AUCTION MART, 105, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.C.2, AT 2.30 P.M.

By direction of the Owners.

SURREY

Large, light, well-exposed, CHINTON HANGER, CHURCH

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE, 5½ reception rooms, 8 principal and 2 secondary bedrooms, 8 bathrooms. Main water and electricity. Central heating. Garage with space over. Two outside walled gardens, one bounded by stone wall, the other by stone wall and trees. The Agents: DREW & LORGIBOROUGH, 20, Austin Friars, London, E.C.2. Auctioneers: LOFTS & WARNER, as above.

By direction of Capt. J. G. Pode-Warren.

HAMPSHIRE

Residence (17th century) and garden, THE COURT, OTTERSBOROUGH

Large hall, 6 reception rooms, 5 bathrooms, 12 bedrooms. Central heating. Electric light. On water and gas. Lovely gardens. Garage and stable block with cottage. In all about 10½ ACRES. The Agents: DREW & LORGIBOROUGH, 20, Austin Friars, London, E.C.2. Auctioneers: H. C. WALL & CO., 62, Bruton Street, W.1 (May 26th) and LOFTS & WARNER, as above.

By direction of Kenneth de Courcy, Esq.

GLOUCESTER—OXON BORDERS

100m. PLACE, STOW-ON-THE-WOLD.

11th-Century Cotswold Residence. Banqueting hall, 2 reception rooms, 6 principal and 9 secondary bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Central heating. Main electric light. Four outside walled gardens. In all about 10½ ACRES. The Agents: Messrs. CHURCHILL, CLAPHAM & CO., 1, Broad Street Place, London, E.C.2. Auctioneers: LOFTS & WARNER, as above.

28, ALBEMARLE ST., PICCADILLY, W.1

HAMPSHIRE COAST

Occupying a delightful situation within 5 minutes' walk of the sea between Christchurch and Hengistbury Head.

A CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE

containing hall, 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom

All main services. Garage.

Attractive gardens with lawns, flower beds, kitchen garden, etc.

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,500.

Vacant possession in September.

See Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,809)

HAYES, KENT

Situate in a fine position on high ground near sea routes and within a few minutes' walk of the station.

A DELIGHTFUL MODERN RESIDENCE

containing hall, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main services. Large Garage.

Small matured garden in well-maintained condition.

PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £4,500

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,865)

Grocerian

1033-33



Just in the Market.

SURREY—FINEST POSITION ON WENTWORTH

Positioned site on high ground, southern exposure, with lovely views over Chobham Common and towards the Surrey Hills beyond. Just over one mile from Sunningdale Station.

A BRIGHTLY FINISHED MODERN RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER



Distinctly planned access

residence on two floors only. Eight bedrooms fitted beds, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2 dining rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, compact and airy, central heating.

Ample water supplies. Garage, stable block with

automatic food (thermostatically controlled) and ample space for storage.

Large garage with spacious rooms over. Up-to-date cottage.

Large garden with ample space for a swimming pool.

TERACED GARDENS OF EXCELLENT PROPORTION.

CHARGE.

formal garden, rock and water garden, kitchen garden, etc. in all about 7½ ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Conveniently situated for the Underground, 1½ miles from the station.

The Purchasers and Owners will be offered for Sale by Auction on July 13 next.

Grosvenor 1988
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)
25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Robert Place Estate Esq.,
West Haddicote, Gloucester,
Bulstrode Esq.,
and Col. V. G. G. G. Esq.,
Woolverstone, B.W.4

FINE JACOBEAN RESIDENCE, PART EARLY NORMAN BARONIAL CASTLE

Erected as a stronghold against the Welsh. Occupying lovely position in Worcestershire, with long frontage to, but high above, the Severn. Beautiful views over the river valley.

The subject of two illustrated articles in COUNTRY LIFE.

THE RESIDENCE has many historical associations and medieval air but has compact, well-planned accommodation and is complete with all modern conveniences.

Sixteen bed., 4 bath., great hall, dining and drawing rooms, all with 18th-century paneling, tower library, up-to-date offices.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, EXCELLENT WATER, COMPLETE CENTRAL HEATING, MODERN DRAINAGE, GARAGES, STABLING, 4 COTTAGES.



Fine old grounds laid out practically as in 17th century with magnificient old yew hedge, hard tennis court, horning green, tennis lawn, kitchen gardens, nursery, etc.

Rich pastures and some 22 acres orchard.

IN ALL ABOUT 109 ACRES

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION (except of 50 acres etc.) IN OCTOBER, INCLUDING THE LORDSHIP OF THE MANOR

It might be possible to purchase certain of the contents.

The Property has been inspected and is most highly recommended by the Agents: **GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS**, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1, from whom photos, plan and Historical Notes can be obtained. (7519)

F. L. MERCER & CO.

Regent 2481
SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

A HOUSE OF TRULY EXQUISITE CHARACTER UNIQUE SITUATION AT EPSOM, SURREY. ON A FAMOUS PRIVATE ESTATE.

Overlooking two golf courses, the Downs and Racecourse. 17 miles London.

A FINE REPLICA OF TUDOR ARCHITECTURE

The subject of tremendous expenditure. Luxuriously appointed and superbly decorated. Vast hall, 3 beautiful reception rooms, white-tiled domestic offices, 7 bedrooms (basins), dressing room, 2 bathrooms.

Central heating. All main services.

Garage, cottage, hard tennis court.

Enchanting grounds laid out by landscape garden artists.

Protected by lovely woodland.

FOR SALE with between 8 and 9 ACRES FRESHFIELD 6280 which will include a wealth of expensive fittings.

Personally inspected and enthusiastically recommended by F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel. Regent 2481.

By direction of the Master, Fellows and Scholars of Trinity College, Cambridge.



SURREY

Within 4 miles of Dorking and Reigate and only 25 miles from London.

THE IMPORTANT RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY

SHILLWOOD MANOR ESTATE

comprising SHILLWOOD MANOR, an exceptionally attractive old Manor House of convenient size, together with

THE WELL-EQUIPPED DAIRY HOLDING, MANOR FARM, 321 ACRES

with modern farmhouse, excellent buildings, 2 good cottages, new cowhouse.

Also KILFIELD House, 8 cottages, development sites, 40 acres woodland,

COVERING A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 501 ACRES

Let and producing a total gross income of £211 a year.

SITUATED IMMEDIATELY ADJOINING AN AREA WHICH WAS IN COURSE OF ACTIVE DEVELOPMENT AT THE OUTBREAK OF WAR

For Sale by Auction as a whole or in 8 Lots (unless previously sold by private treaty) at the London Auction Mart, 182, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4, on Wednesday, July 8, 1947, at 2 p.m.

Particulars from the Land Agents: Messrs. SHERW-WOLLEY & CO., Chartered Surveyors, Manor Office, Folkestone, or the Auctioneers:

Messrs. BIDWELL & SONS

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

Head Office: 2, King's Parade, Cambridge, and at Ely, Ipswich, and 49, St. James's Street, London, S.W.1

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Ground floor flat. "Cremorne, London."

FINEST-CLASS COUNTRY HOTEL (CLUB LICENCE)
WYE VALLEY. Excellent motorised Country House Hotel, 800 ft. up, magnificient views. Five reception, 2 bath., 38 bed. (6 h. and c.), part central heating, electric lift. Age 100 years. Large grounds, tennis lawn, kitchen garden, greenhouses, and outbuildings, fruit and vegetable gardens and meadow. 12 ACRES. STUNNING FRESHFIELD FOR QUICKE SALE. LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (2618)

6,000 GUINEAS 26 ACRES
CROWSWOOD. 2½ miles Cheltenham. 850 ft. up, extensive views, very secluded. 3 reception, 2 bath., 22 bed. (6 h. and c.), part central heating, electric lift. Large grounds, tennis lawn, kitchen garden, greenhouses, and paddocks. 210,000 FRESHFIELD FOR QUICKE SALE. TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (2618)

11 ACRES OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE TWO COTTAGES
EAST SUSSEX. Attractive pleasant village with good views. Charming Residence, 1½ h., 3 reception, billiards room, 2 bedrooms, 6-8 bed. (2 h. and c.), Main office, 2 bath., 22 bed. (6 h. and c.), part central heating, electric lift. Large grounds, tennis lawn, kitchen garden, greenhouses, and paddocks. 210,000 FRESHFIELD FOR QUICKE SALE. TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (2618)

HINTON. 27 miles London, road daily access. Pretty and rural village. Charming Residence, 1½ h., 3 reception, billiards room, 2 bedrooms, 6-8 bed. (2 h. and c.), Main office, 2 bath., 22 bed. (6 h. and c.), part central heating, electric lift. Large grounds, tennis lawn, kitchen garden, greenhouses, and paddocks. 210,000 FRESHFIELD FOR QUICKE SALE. TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (2618)

BORWELL. 27 miles London, road daily access. Large house and shop at Fishermans Walk, 1½ h., 3 reception, billiards room, 2 bedrooms, 6-8 bed. (2 h. and c.), Main office, 2 bath., 22 bed. (6 h. and c.), part central heating, electric lift. Attractive gardens with lawn, rockery and fruit trees.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (2618)

WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAGRAVE STREET, READING. Reading 2920 & 4112.

PERIOD FARMHOUSE SUSSEX COAST 10 MILES

Completely sympathetically, finely appointed and in grand country.

Nine-ten bedrooms, 6 bath., 3 reception, cloak, compact offices. Main electric, central heating, garage, outbuildings, tennis court, outbuildings, swimming pool, woodland.

21 ACRES. FRESHFIELD.

£12,000 OR OFFER

WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO., as above.

CHARLES H. MANOR HOUSE WEST SUSSEX
£7,000 required for CHARACTHERISTIC AND HISTORIC HOUSE upon which 2,000 recently spent. Three reception, 5 bedrooms, 3-4 bed. bathrooms, two entirely separate sets of rooms for servants (or could be let off). Main electricity and water. Large garden, garage and outbuildings.

5 ACRES FRESHFIELD.
WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO., as above.

5, MOUNT ST.
LONDON, W.1

CURTIS & HENSON

SOUTH DEVON, NEAR TORQUAY

On high ground amidst pleasant surroundings. Convenient to station. 1½ miles from coast.

ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD
RESIDENCE

Lounge, hall, 3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, Central heating. Electric light, power, gas and water. Garage for 3 cars. Charming gardens and grounds and paddock.

ABOUT 4 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1 (Grosvenor 5181).

VACANT POSSESSION.

THE ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD PROPERTY

known as

"THE DUNES" SANDWICH BAY, SANDWICH, KENT

5 miles from Sandwich. 10 miles from Folkestone.

Eleven bed and dressing rooms, 4 en suite bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, 2 reception rooms, domestic offices. "Ag" cooker. Main drainage. Central heating. Domestic hot water supply. Main electric light. Garage with rooms over for chauffeur. The grounds are entirely enclosed and extend to approximately

ONE ACRE

To be offered for Sale by Public Auction at the Fleetwood Lis Hotel, Sandwich, on Friday, July 11, 1947, at 2.45 p.m.

Auctioneers: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1 (Grosvenor 5181), and Chartered Surveyors: Martin, Waller & Co., Manor Office, Folkestone, Kent (Tel. 2543).

9 miles from Thetford and Diss.

NORFOLK

Grosvenor 5181 (3 lines)
Established 1875

15 miles from Bury St. Edmunds. 22 miles from Norwich.

An exceptionally fine Queen Anne House built of mellow brick.

Large hall, 3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, Central heating. Electric light, power, gas and water. Garage for 3 cars. Charming gardens and grounds and paddock.

ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD
RESIDENCE

with walled kitchen garden. The whole property is in perfect condition throughout.

IN ALL ABOUT 100 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

Joint Sole Agents: KERSEY, PARKER & BUTLER, 30, Grosvenor Square, W.1, and CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1 (Grosvenor 5181).

SIX MILES WEST OF HEREFORD

A valuable freehold, residential, agricultural and sporting estate

of about 550 ACRES for sale by order of Executors, comprising an interesting old house of 13 bed and dressing rooms, 8 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms and billiards room, standing in charming well-timbered gardens. Good stabling, garages and out-buildings, lodge, gardener's cottage. Main electric light.

Three good Farms with adequate houses, cottages and buildings; one of 220 acres in hand.

Several good farms and smallholdings, splendid woodlands of 65 acres with valuable well-grown oak and soft woods affording especially sporting shooting.

For Sale by Auction during the coming summer.

Joint Sole Agents and Auctioneers: Messrs. RUSSELL, BALDWIN & BRIGHT, LTD., Hereford (Tel. 2184), and Messrs. CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, London, W.1 (Grosvenor 5181).

Central
2544/26/7

FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

Established 1780

AUCTIONEERS, CHARTERS, SURVEYORS, LAND AGENTS.

29, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4

Telegrams:
"Farebrother, London"'

CAMBERLEY

Within 10 minutes' walk of station and shops.

A WELL BUILT RESIDENCE

in parklike surroundings.

10 BEDROOMS. 3 BATHROOMS.

FINE SUITE OF ENTERTAINING ROOMS.

CENTRAL HEATING.

ALL MAIN SERVICES.

GARAGE.



For further particulars apply: FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 29, Fleet Street, E.C.4. CENTRAL 9944.

ESTATE
OFFICESTelephone:
Kingston 1661

BENTALLS

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY

SURREY—EXCELLENT SERVICE TO WATFORD IN 25 MINUTES

In much-favoured residential area—close to Oxshott Woods and open country.

A CITY GENTLEMAN'S DIGNIFIED SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE

A moderate sized and modernised house approached by a long evergreen and rhododendron lined carriage drive and standing in well-timbered grounds, tennis and rose lawns, vinehouse and fruit trees in all about 12 ACRES. Complete enclosure and inexpensive to maintain.

Hall with cloakroom, 3 many reception rooms, 4-6 bedrooms and dressing room. 2 bathrooms, compact and tiled domestic offices. Garage for 2 cars with room over. All main services. Partial central heating. Thoroughly modernised and expensively redecorated.



MODERATE FREEHOLD PRICE TO ENSURE IMMEDIATE SALE

Inspected and recommended by BENTALLS LTD., Estate Office, Kingston-on-Thames.

ESTATE

Kensington 1490
Telegrams:
"Estate, Harrods, London."

HARRODS

34-36 HANS CRESCENT, LONDON S.W.1

OFFICES

Surrey Office:
West Byfleet
and Haslemere

FAVOURITE PART OF SUSSEX

c.24

Horsham 3 miles.

MODERN HOUSE, HALF TIMBERED

In first-class order and condition throughout. Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, maid's sitting room. Main water and electricity. Partial central heating. Fitted basin in bedrooms. Garage (6), 8 loose boxes, 9 kennels, 2 cottages.

Delightful gardens, hard tennis court, home paddocks, in all about **50 ACRES**

FREEHOLD £19,500

Inspected and strongly recommended by HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 809).

HERTS AND MIDDLESEX BORDERS

Handy for Moor Park and other golf courses.

c.4

FACTORING LABOURERS' RESIDENCE
with oak panelled hall, large oak panelled dining room, drawing room and billiards room, garden room, 7 bedrooms, (1 with basin b. and c.), 2 bathrooms, model offices, dining room, 2 sitting rooms, kitchen gardens, etc. In all about **4½ ACRES**
FOR SALE AS A WHOLE
VACANT POSSESSION

Inspected and recommended by HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 806).

SUNNY SOUTH COAST

c.2

Only 2 minutes' walk from miles of sandy beach, 5 minutes' walk village.
EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE
MODERN THATCHED
RESIDENCE

With old-world charm and fine interior oak work, 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, All main services. Garage for one. Stabling for one.

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS
OF ABOUT 1 ACRE

PRICE FREEHOLD

£9,000

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 809).

AUCTION JULY 20 NEXT (AS A WHOLE OR IN 2 LOTS)
CLAYTON COURT, LISS, HAMPSHIRE

A lovely situation in wooded country. Enjoying superb views. Luxuriously appointed character residence, completely modernised throughout of cost. Magnificent galleryed hall, sun lounge, 4 reception rooms, 12 bedrooms, (10 with basin b. and c.), 5 bathrooms. Garage for 2 (flat over). Stabling. Three cottages. Range heated glassed houses. Main services.

Modern drainage. Central heating.

Charming terraced gardens, and beautifully timbered grounds, arable and pasture, about **25½ ACRES**

Offers privately considered

Auctioneers: HARRODS LTD., Knightsbridge, H.W.1 (Kensington 1490. Ext. 806), and High Street, Haslemere (Tel.: 0554).

RURAL SUSSEX

c.3

Amidst beautiful country, about 6 miles East Grinstead.



A CHARMING COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Hall, 2 reception, 7 bed and dressing, 2 bath. Main drainage. Coal electric light and water. Radiators. Two garages.

The gardens form a delightful setting, in all about **1½ ACRES**

FREEHOLD, REASONABLE PRICE

Recommended by HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 807).

PRIVATE LANDING STAGE AND FRONTOAGE TO ITCHENOR CHANNEL

HARBOUR HOUSE, ITCHENOR, SUSSEX

MODERN RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

In first-class order and enjoying lovely views.

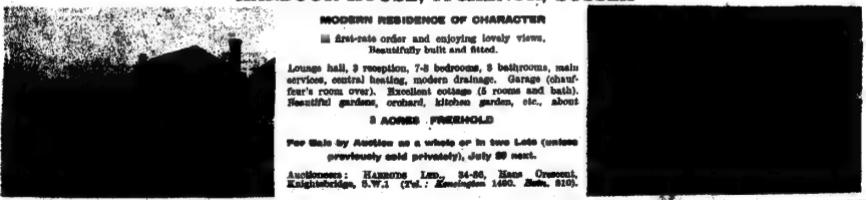
Beautifully built and fitted.

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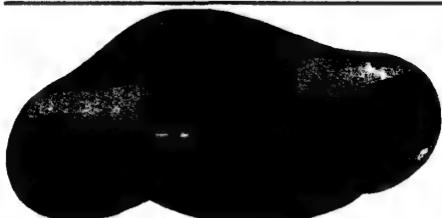
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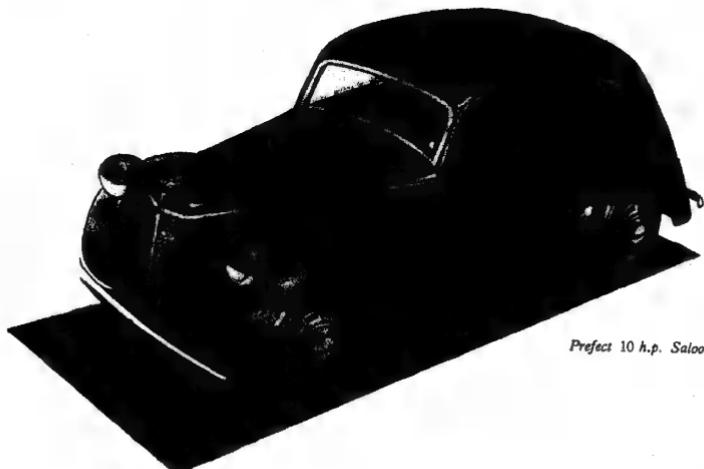


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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CI No. 2630

12/87
JUNE 13, 1947



Pearl Freeman

MRS. DAVID SMILEY

is the younger daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Francis Scott and the late Lady Francis Scott, of Old Knebworth, Hertfordshire. Before her recent marriage to Major David de Crespigny Smiley, youngest son of the late Major Sir John Smiley, Bt., and the Dowager Lady Smiley, she was the widow of Major Hugo Tweedie

COUNTRY LIFE

EDITORIAL OFFICES:

2-10 TAIVSTOCK STREET
COVENT GARDEN

W.C.2.

Teleg. Country Life, London
Telephone, Temple Bar 7351

ADVERTISING AND
PUBLISHING OFFICES,
TOWER HOUSE
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London.



The Editor reminds correspondents that communications requiring a reply must be accompanied by the requisite stamp. MSS. will not be returned unless this condition is complied with.

*Postal rates on this issue: Island 2d. Canada 1½d.
Elsewhere Abroad 2d. Annual subscription rates
including postage: Island 8s. 8d.; Abroad, 8s. 8d.;
Canada, 8s. 8d.*

AGRICULTURAL LAND PLANNING

FOR many years we have seen housing and industrial development—especially on the fringes of long-established towns and cities—eating into the good farm land which for centuries supplied the town-dweller with most of his food. As the tragic days of ribbon-development, the process which covered all over the countryside, it became increasingly evident that a half must be called; that local planners, when they were in a position to act effectively, must take full account of the intrinsic national value of agricultural land before proposing, or consenting to, development. The events of the past ten years have tragically underlined the lesson and the position with regard to food supply and foreign exchange has made only too clear the contrast between the value of good farm land to the nation, and its value in the market if confined to its agricultural use. In planning schemes to-day the preservation of farm land is recognised as of the first importance, and we have just seen three sites, suggested in the Greater London Plan for development under the New Towns Act, turned down by the Minister of Town and Country Planning because of the disturbance to agricultural production which their adoption would have involved.

The considerations which apply to the planning of Greater London apply also to the smallest piece of development on the fringes of a town or village or, it may be (for non-residential purposes) in the heart of the countryside itself. On what basis should the agricultural value of any piece of land which it is proposed to put out of cultivation be estimated in order to compare it with alternative sites elsewhere? The obvious answer is: on a market value based on its present productivity. But from the long-term, national point of view something more scientific is needed. Every piece of land should be naturally valued not only in its apparent productivity under existing, and partly fortuitous, conditions but after an examination of all the agricultural possibilities inherent in its site and its soil, as well as of the less permanent human characters arising from history and economic factors. This demands, of course, a really comprehensive system of land classification for agricultural purposes, and two very serious attempts have recently been made to provide one for the West Midlands and one for the three counties of Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire. The Land Utilisation Survey of Britain—which was completed under the directorship of Dr. Dudley Stamp during the war—provides a picture of the use actually made of the land in the period 1931-38, on the basis of a somewhat complex classification into ten categories. The West Midland Group of planners and the Reconstruction Research Group of Bristol University have since adopted a simpler scheme,

and have produced a series of maps showing the large-scale lay-out of the land in their areas on a basis of size and soil factors instead of on crop production at a particular time.

The existence of such maps will obviously lighten the tasks of large-scale planning, and the same scheme can equally be applied to farm land in the smallest areas. This is the beginning of an agricultural era in which parts of the country—particularly the Highlands—we shall have unprecedented opportunities for agricultural development. Elsewhere the provision of better supplies of water and electric power may well "step up" a good deal of marginal land into something more productive—especially if the use of the new grass-land technique is retained and extended. A detailed scheme of land classification based upon a field-by-field soil examination of all the factors involved would

ENCOUNTERS

THEY touched my life. Such fleeting impact only.

*May spin the airy soul to Heaven or Hell.
I who remain, immutable and lonely,
Can wish them well.*

*They passed. My silence echoes to their story.
Out of my darkness is their light made plain.
They storm the stars from glory unto glory—
I touched them: I remain.*

MARY-ADAIR MACDONALD.

take 30 or 40 years to complete. The more generalised classification now being undertaken will, even now, be invaluable to all concerned in town and country planning. It emphasises the significance of "site"—as distinct from "soil" factors; the importance of slope and of micro-climate, for instance. How many planners realise that a local frost-pocket may rule out of use a particular site for fruit-growing, while a sheltered position may render another particularly well suited for early crop production? Most important of all, perhaps, is the fact that, if the depth, water-conditions and texture of any soil are satisfactory, good farming can be relied upon to build up the requisite nutrient status—given the time!

PROJECTS AND RESULTS

THE latest plan for the City of London, illustrated on other pages of this issue, suggests hopefully a start being made next year on the most urgent undertakings, estimated to take ten years, to be followed by a thirty-year period of general rebuilding. Yet this colossal programme is only one of a score of others little less extensive, and they await, before they can be begun, the building of several new towns which cannot be started before the rearms of small house building are overtaken. The housing returns for April show a recovery from the set-back caused earlier by the weather, but the figures for neither houses nor building materials are encouraging. In these circumstances the charges made at the Labour Party conference at Margate with regard to "the inefficiency and frustration" which exists through "the building industry" meet communitarian. There naturally appears to be considerable friction between the Government and the workers on the subject of payment by results. The building trade workers' leader said that the Minister of Works had made "the most premature announcement that a scheme for payment by results had been accepted by the building industry," and denounced the statement as untrue. But until the pace of building can be accelerated, geared as it is to the supply of materials, which ultimately depends on the tonnage of coal produced, the prospect of the London or any other city plan ever being realised appears remote indeed. All projects and prospects of improved living conditions are illusory until the vicious circle of restrictive practices is broken by an expanding system of incentives, not confined to a single industry, but applying to all. The so-called Stalwarts are encouraged to make their appearance the sooner projects will be translated into results.

THE FORTUNATE 'FORTIES

FOR some mysterious reason founders of colleges seem to have been stirred to acts of piety when their century, coming to its prime, had turned forty, with the result that we are now passing through a plethora of centenaries. The celebrations of the quincentenaries of Henry VI's sister foundations at Eton and Cambridge had to be postponed owing to the war, and at Eton there is now being held a commemorative exhibition which was noticed in these pages a week ago. Last year Christ Church, Oxford, celebrated its final foundation by Henry VIII in 1546. A year later, as the shadow of death stole nearer, his thoughts turned to Cambridge, where last week the King and Queen were present at the celebrations commemorating what was almost the last act of Henry's life—the foundation of Trinity College. And there are other College centenaries on the way. At Cambridge, Pembroke attained its sixtieth year, and Queen's its fifth this year, while in 1949 occurs the sixcentenary of Gonville Hall, which Dr. Caius later re-founded as Gonville and Caius. In 1949, too, University, the oldest Oxford College, will reach the great age of seven hundred. This unconscious conviction that the 'forties were fortunate seems to have been shared by Cardinal Kemp, who in 1447 founded a college at Wye, near Ashford, Kent. His college of priests, now a college of farmers, is described elsewhere in this issue.

PURSUIT OF BEAUTY

THE National Art Collection Fund Report reveals that at the annual meeting there was a refreshing brush between some members, Lord Crawford (the chairman), and Lord Lee of Fareham, on the issue of whether work by, for instance, Picasso, qualifies for acquisition by the Fund. Lord Lee had said that the Fund should never be tempted to run after the ephemeral, but concern itself with the basic, permanent values, which he defined as beauty, quality and fine workmanship. Why, he asked, do the modern arts apparently seek the abnormal and unpleasant? Is there not enough that is sordid and ugly in the world for the pursuit of beauty and decency by men of genius to be worth study? Lord Crawford defined the Fund's criterion as not "does this work fit in with a theory?" but "is it a good work of art?", and pointed out that the Contemporary Art Society exists to deal with recent, doubtful, cases. There is, it may be observed, quite a possibility that, together with Christian civilisation, the conception of beauty may be extinguished in the world by materialism in its various forms. The Fund's present policy undoubtedly satisfies the vast majority of its supporters. Members are being given the opportunity in July of visiting Wrotham Park, Barnt, designed by Isaac Ware and containing important collections; and Syon House, of which the rooms are perhaps Adam's most spectacular achievement.

LADIES AT GULLANE

THIS week the ladies have been playing for their championship in the golfing heart of the Lothians at Gullane. It is a fine course, and it is a great view once the player has made the steep climb of the second hole, and has reached the top of Gullane hill, with links all round him, with the prospect of the sea, and the mighty tracery of the Forth Bridge in the distance, and the curlews calling, he is in one of the golfing paradises of the world. This championship may, like that at Carnoustie and the Walker Cup at St. Andrews, go to America, for there is one very dangerous challenger from that country. The name of Mrs. Mildred Zahariash conceals the most famous of female all-round athletes, formerly known as Miss Babe Widrickeen. In the thirties she was winning races and javelin in the Olympic Games; then she became eminent at basketball, and now she has become by all accounts the most formidable of American lady golfers. She must be very good and may go one better than that delightful player, Miss Glenna Collett, now Mrs. Vare. Miss Wethered stopped Mrs. Vare and no one has quite succeeded to her empire.

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

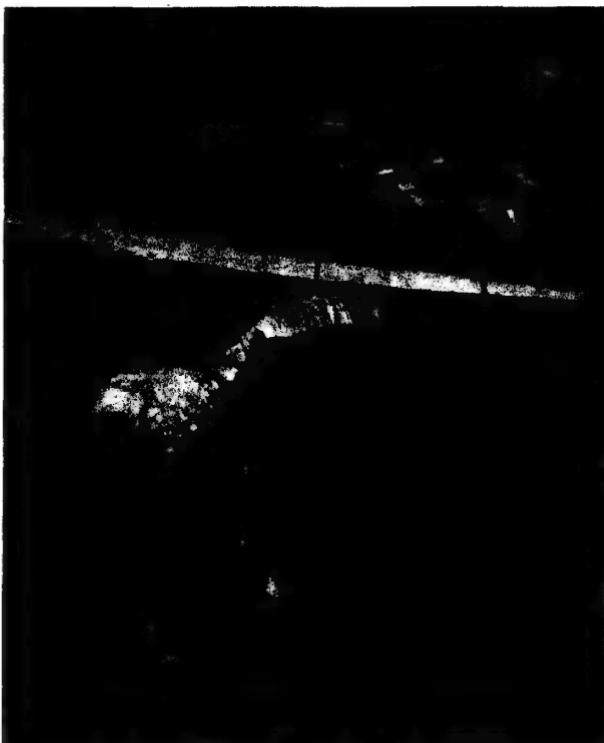
AN unusual feature of this spring is the remarkable manner in which the head of water in the various streams and rivers has been maintained at flood level. Admittedly the weather of February and March was phenomenal, but since then, though there has been a certain amount of rain, the fall has not been heavy enough to account for rivers remaining at their present heights. Our little chalk stream, which in ordinary times only overflows its banks slightly after torrential rains, has been well over the adjoining water-meadows and flooding the near-by road for at least six months, and even now, despite the efforts of the Catchment Board at canalisation on the lower reaches, the level is still very high, so that the gravelly runs are miniature torrents and the quiet stretches surging whirlpools.

One of the results of this over-abundance of water is that the little river does not seem to have any banks at all. The more or less solid turf of other days has been replaced by something suggestive of the wettest part of a Connemara bog and the chalk-stream trout, which is essentially a lover of rigid routine, apparently does not know what to do in these circumstances. If he takes up his usual stand under the cast-entangling willow branches which he frequents in ordinary times, the force of the stream makes the maintenance of this position very exhausting and, moreover, the natural sites, if any, seem to float down on the wrong eddy. On the day when I chose to visit the water the trout one and all seemed to think that rising to the fly was a wearisome and unsatisfactory proceeding, and the brace I caught on something that I persuaded myself was a nymph provided internal evidence that they had been drawing their rations from the river's bottom.

IHAVE fished this small river now since my boyhood days, and thought that I knew all the pitfalls for the unwary along the banks; and the average chalk stream does provide some amazing pitfalls. The patch of mud by the clump of bulrushes which is not quite so viscous as it looks; the narrow side channel which appears to have a firm gravel bottom, but which definitely has not; and the hidden strand of barbed wire dating back to the 1914-18 war in the deadly nightshade clump. The constant flooding of 1947, however, seems to have had a disintegrating effect on the geography of the stream's banks, and I discovered to my cost that in this world one is always learning something new.

THERE are two pastimes in the pursuit of which the operator, with his mind a complete blank as to other and more mundane things, is in the habit of stepping backwards a few paces from time to time for some good reason or another, namely finding and passing. An elderly minister, a very keen amateur artist, and one always knew when he was putting in what are known as the \$10 touches by the crashes one would hear in his studio. He would go close up to the easel to pick out the high lights on the church steeple, and when he stepped back a couple of paces to view the effect of his brush-work he would stumble over the coal scuttle. Then he would return to the picture to strengthen the shadows in the elm trees, and on going back this time to decide if he had overdone the purple wash he would cleverly avoid the scuttle, but knock over the other easel on which yesterday's oil masterpiece was drying.

In the same way, should the dry-fly man when casting upstream be suddenly confronted by a trout that starts to rise immediately in front of him, the quickest way to cover the newcomer is not to reel in the surplus line but to



A. Ronald Traube

OLD FAITHFULS

step back two or three paces in order to employ the whole length of the cast easily. Owing to my intimate knowledge of the topography of the aforesaid stream I can usually do this with impunity, but when I made the movement on the opening day this season I stepped back into a bottomless pit of liquid mud into which I sank well above my waders to my waist. To my certain knowledge nothing like this man-trap was in existence in 1906, nor in any subsequent year, and I cannot think who or what contrived it. I should very much like to lay the blame on the Catchment Board, but I suppose that, like so many other things, one must attribute it to the weather.

THE truth of the old saying "One man's meat is another man's poison" was brought home to me the other day when a friend picked out the largest specimen from some black olives he had acquired after some research from a Greek grocer and asked: "Are these those wonderful black olives about which you and other semi-Orientals talk such a lot?" He then put it into his mouth and the next moment with a strangled scream ran out into the shrubbery. It would seem, therefore, that the sustaining meal of white goat's-milk cheese garnished with plenty of black olives glistening in their own oil that the Greeks and Syrians esteem so highly does not appeal to the average British palate. If Mr. Strachey were to import a quantity of them to supplement in some way the shortage in the fat ration, I suppose that, although he would please me and a few others with vitiated Eastern palates, he would arouse more criticism from the great mass of the population than he

did with his pineapples. It must be very trying to be in the position of the Minister of Food these days, since he must have learnt by this time that, although one may please some of the people all the time and all the people some of the time, it is impossible to please all the people all the time.

REALISING as I do that my palate is in the minority, I submit in all humility that the most popular variety of British potato, the Majestic, is the poorest flavoured and least satisfying of all the many varieties that we can grow. Of the catalogues of two well-known seedsmen I received recently one refers to the Majestic as "an enormous crop of excellent quality" and the other, having said something about its cooking properties, states that it is "an exceptionally heavy crop growing nearly all large tubers". I am in full agreement over the Majestic's prolific cropping qualities and agree that the yield is "nearly all large tubers" (some of them are so large that they have to be cut into four pieces before they will fit into an average-sized saucepan), but I am by no means certain that the flavour of a potato is improved by being cut into four portions before it is cooked. In my biased opinion the ideal sized potato is one of 3 in. diameter and no more, unless it be required for baking, and that, although tubers above this size may be excellent for fried fish and chip shop, they are not desirable in the ordinary household.

I can quite understand why the farmer and the market-gardener grow the Majestic variety, since, as there are no regrettable class distinctions with potatoes as there are in the apple

world with the Cox right at the top of the list, a professional will naturally grow the type that will yield the greatest tonnage per acre—and unquestionably the Majestic does this.

OWING to the severe frosts of last winter, and the unusual activities of a large-sized field mouse that prefers a shed to a field, my own potato crop did not quite see me through to those halcyon days when one digs the first of the "earlies." As the result I had to buy some of those that were available in the local market, and these, of course, were the ever-popular Majestic, their popularity being due to no other type being on sale. These, after my very solid, sustaining and floury Kerr's Pinks, which maintain their quality "until potatoes come again," seem like tasteless wax, and even the hens look at them with a cold, calculating eye. While indulging in this very carpig criticism of a tuber which seems to appeal to the British palate, I am fully aware that the soil has much to do with the quality of a potato, and that possibly my highly-esteemed Kerr's Pinks may be most indifferent in flavour and quality when grown elsewhere, and that the Majestic is not always so aggressively majestic as regards size.

THERE is an old and very true Dorset saying, with regard to boys employed on a farm, that "one boy is a boy, two boys are half a boy and three boys are no boy at all." This applies also to officials, except that, whereas the three boys on the farm go off to float boats on the brook, the three officials, finding time hanging on their hands, go forth and make work for themselves by interfering with, and hanging up the work of, others.

Speaking as an ex-government official myself I can confirm that as a class we should be used very sparingly indeed—treated like garlic, in fact—for an over-dose of officials is quite as offensive as an over-dose of this highly-scented bulb. An under-staffed department will seldom fail to deliver the goods, but an over-staffed one will almost certainly fail and in addition make a nuisance of itself.

THE following is a case in point. Until recently the growing of canary seed and buckwheat on land that might be used for food production was prohibited, the regulation being, of course, intended to apply to considerable acreages that might carry wheat or other corn. Lincolnshire, however, officials seem to have plenty of time on their hands to enable them to

deal with petty details, judging by a recent prosecution quoted by the *Estate Magazine*.

An ex-Service man, employed as a farm labourer, sowed canary seed on three rods of land, being under the impression, as was I, that one could grow what one liked on less than an acre without interference. Apparently officialdom took a serious view of the matter, and made two attempts to scythe down the prohibited crops and plough the land in July, but on both occasions they were obstructed by the canary seed-grower, who resented seeing a flourishing crop destroyed at a time of the year when nothing could be sown to replace it. For this disgraceful flouting of local authority he was fined a total of £307 16s. or 12 months' imprisonment. This will teach the canary-seed-growing ex-Service man something about the special brand of freedom for which he has been fighting.

I realize now how lucky I am to be still writing Notes for COUNTRY LIFE, since last year I grew some sunflowers for the poultry on a three-rood plot and, if one is sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for a tiny grain like a canary seed, in equity one ought to get a life sentence for a big aggressive thing like a sunflower.

OLD WATER-MILLS OF SURREY

Written and Illustrated by J. D. U. WARD



RICKFORD MILL, NEAR WORPLESDON

OLD water-mills are a peaceful, placid subject, but I doubt whether the mills of Surrey should be specially commended as an "escape study" for anyone mentally sick of strife. Surrey mills seem to have played an ominous part in history. The late Donald Maxwell wrote: "Up till the time when Henry Reve established a mill in 1554 at Rotherhithe, in Surrey, all our gunpowder came from abroad," and he also observed that a century later the Parliamentary control of the powder mills at Godstone and Chilworth in Surrey during the Civil War "did more than anything else to turn the tide of battle against the Royalist forces."

The Godstone and Chilworth mills belonged to the Evelyns, and some of Mr. Eric Parker's words, written almost 40 years ago, in *Highways and Byways of Surrey*, may be quoted:

George Evelyn (grandfather of a more famous grandson, John Evelyn of Wotton) and John, his son, "lived in a house in the hills, and made saltpetre in Great Britain and Ireland, and set up their first powder-mills on the little Hogsmill River, which joins the Thames at Kingston."

The famous John Evelyn wrote to Aubrey:

Not far from my brother's house upon the streams and in the sun filled fields and drained, 'stood formerly many powder-mills, erected by my ancestors, who were the very first who brought that invention into England; before which we had all our gunpowder out of Flanders.'

Soon the business spread to the more southerly parts of the county: on Chilworth Aubrey wrote:—

In this little romany vale are sixteen powder-mills erected—'tis a little commonwealth of powder-makers who are as black as Negroes!'

Later, some of the powder-mills were converted into paper-mills, where bank-notes were made, and the combination of gunpowder and bank-notes excited the special wrath of the easily wrathful Cobbett. He penned a long and eloquent tirade in which "a scene of innocence and happiness," complete with nightingales, was contrasted with "two of the most damnable inventions that ever sprang from man under the influence of the devil!"

When Mr. Parker was writing, the Chilworth mills were making cordite. But I suspect that the last of the Hogsmill powder-mills had even then ceased to make explosives. Last summer I searched along some stretches of the stream on both sides of Malden but found nothing. An elderly working man said that he "knew nothing 'tis no mills 'tis no kind", and he'd lived here all his life—so I understood that if there were indeed any mills they had no business to be there.

But then in Ewell I met another man who said, "Ah yes, the powder-mills." They were out in the fields: they've been gone a long time now." Cycling along a road bordered by the older trees belched of gunpowder smoke, I saw a group of buildings, painted black with white window-frames, which accorded with an ancient guide-book's description of the powder manufactory, but they were quite near the highway and consisted largely of corrugated iron, so I decided that these could not be the old mills.

Of course, past wars might also be recalled by the *burning woods of Surrey*, not so far from Chilworth. But the days of Surrey's gunpowder were indeed long ago, and without survival to this century. One 20th-century writer comments on the fact that the water-power of a mill at Abinger Hammer, whence came cannon which had helped to rout the Armada, was working a sausage-machine when he visited it. A few miles away at Wotton were the first mills in England for casting, hammering and making wire of brass. Evelyn wrote on the subject to Aubrey:

First they drew the wire by men sitting harnessed in certain swings, taking hold of the brass thongs fitted to the holes, with pincers fastened to a girdle which went about them, and then with stretching forth their feet against a stump, they shot their bodies from it, closing with the plate again; but afterwards this was quite left off and the effect performed by an *ingenio* brought out of Sweden.

Another wire-mill at Felbridge is supposed to have turned out nails for use in the building of St. Paul's Cathedral, and Dunsfold has contested Lamberhurst's claim to be the source of the cathedral's iron railings.

It was at no great distance from Dunsfold that I once watched deerskins being dressed at a mill, operated by water, at Godalming. These deerskins yielded glove leather. The making of vellum and parchment from calf and other skins was among the industries of the northern Surrey water-mills on the edge of London.

The mills of the Wandle and other suburban brooks are full of interest. At Morden, where there used to be a snuff-mill (there were several others elsewhere in Surrey), I found the brass plate of a "Tobacco Manufacturer" still on the roadside front of the old mill's bounded remains, though no snuff is now ground there. In the failing light of evening I took a snapshot of the mill-pond. An enquiry about some ruins a little farther upstream received the answer that there had been another mill, a flock-mill.

It was a Wandle mill, run by Huguenot at Wandsworth, that used to produce the scarlet hats of cardinals, and there have been comments on the irony of the Roman purchase of



EVENING AT CASTLE MILL, NEAR DORKING. (Below) SWANS AND CYGNETS BY FETCHAM MILL-POND, JUST OUTSIDE LEATHERHEAD



hats from men who were refugees from Roman persecution. Incidentally, Voltaire, during his absence from France from 1726 to 1729, was for a time the guest of Sir Edward Fawke, a scarlet dyer, at Wandsworth. There were also Brazil or red dye mills at Carshalton and Wimbledon, and dyeing and fulling were, of course, among the functions of William Morris's famous mills at Merton Priory. Indeed, fulling and dyeing were major industries of the Wandle, but there were also felt-making and calico-printing mills, paper-mills and copper-mills, and, of course, corn-mills.

However indifferent "progressive-minded" people may be, I think that the passing of the old water-mills is to be regretted. A fine old weather-boarded corn-mill (illustrated by Donald Maxwell) on the Hogsmill River at Kingston has gone within the last 25 years, and many of the Surrey water-mills are now in that state of disuse which is too often the prelude to ruin or clearance. Such mills as those at Cobham (said to be 13th-century but the present buildings seem to be barely 200 years old) and Dorking (both the Castle Mill and Pippbrook Mill) seem too pleasant to lose.

Some of the more modern mills are



THE WEATHER-BOARDED CORN-MILL NEAR THE ABBEY RUINS AT NEWARK, CLOSE TO RIPLEY

much less attractive to the eye, yet even they are happy in their surroundings: for example, Ockham Mill near Ripley and Stoke Mill just outside Guildford. Few people would call Stoke Mill beautiful in itself, nor are its surroundings exactly picturesque, but the building reflects well in the water, and the scene when I happened to view it was completed by a large barge such as Constable would have loved. The mill itself is an interesting example of 19th-century architecture, and a passer-by, overlooking the river, might be forgiven if he mistook it for an unusually large Nonconformist Chapel. I suspect that Mr. John Betjeman might find as much merit in it as others would see in the earlier and more famous mill on the other side of Guildford, at Shalford. Shalford Mill, with its black weather-boards and its fish-scale tiles, is now owned by the National Trust and let as a private residence.

Mill-into-house is naturally a favourite metamorphosis, especially within 50 miles of London. The old mill-house at Westcott is particularly charming. The "next-door" Rookery Mill is also a private house. "Perhaps the two most beautifully-placed mills in Surrey" was the description, in a 40-year-old guide book, of the Rookery and the near-by Milton Court mills. Of the latter Grant Allen wrote:

The best view of all (is) to be had from the bridge hard by the mill-house, a bridge thickly covered with glossy green ivy, where one can take in at a single glance the old mill-wheel, the water from the open sluice rushing and roaring over the stones below, the rank vegetation of cow-parpup and butter-bur that chokes the margin of the pond, the place where the swans are nesting, and the big trees that frame in the whole with their over-hanging arch of summer greenery.

Now the mill is dismantled: both the mill-pond and the picturesque cottage with its great ivy-grown chimney, are still there, but the great caviots and a few large beams are all that remains of the mill and its works.

That Dorking-Guildford-Chiddington-Farnham part of Surrey, which includes such places as Westcott and Wootton, Abinger, Gomshall, Chilworth and Shalford, is famous for its beauty, but a pleasant old mill-house, now part farm, part inn or coffee-house, may be found in quite another corner—at Thorpe, near Chertsey. In 1908 Mr. Eric Parker numbered little-known Thorpe among the three or four most beautiful villages in Surrey. When I was there a few weeks ago I commented that it seemed unspoilt and that there appeared to be little new building. "Oh, no," was the reply, "there was not likely to be much building, for this was part of the Green Belt."

A medley of pleasant memories remains from the two or three days spent cycling round a few of the Surrey mills. The lovely mill-pond at Fetcham outside Leatherhead, with its coots and moorhens and the swans with a family of cygnets; the exceptionally handsome old weather-boarded corn-mill near the abbey ruins at Newark, close to Ripley; and Rickford Mill near Worplesdon—perhaps ordinary enough in itself but happily framed by trees and water-lilies and a cumulus cloud. I remember several cress beds (nearly always pleasant to look upon: Ruskin recorded how the "cresses

well, near the site of the famous palace of Non-such, and I remember the black mill at Byfleet. And then two or three hours in the library with half a dozen books: what historic and literary associations! Non-such, Evelyn and Voltaire have been mentioned, but here were the willows in Sir John Millais's *Death of Ophelia*, and here was Nelson fishing in the mill-stream; near this mill Malthus was born, and next that lived John Donne, when in disgrace for having secretly married his master's 16-year-old niece. And now, at Fetcham, the old mill-pond kept by Skeleton's Elbow Rummaging.

So many strands of history were woven through the mill and the mill-streams. There was a reference to the "unhappy Wandle, formerly the hemlock-stream in the south of England"—and then I learnt that even by 1829 the Wandle was turning 40 miles of different kinds, and

The first railway line in England was projected in 1802, for the purpose of carrying the produce of these mills to London—it was extended as far as Croydon, and was very successful for many years, the trucks being, of course, drawn by horses.

Then there was mentioned of the ancient old Celtic title of the "Pipbrook," in fact the very names of the rivers proved to be stored with interest. I used to think that Molesey was derived from the Mole and Wandsworth from the Wandle, but the authorities asserted that the river names were probably back formations of the places. The Hogsmill River was not directly swinish but commemorated an early miller named Hogg: Hogg was essentially the same as Wye; and what English stream has a lovelier name than Tillingbourne?

Superior persons may dismiss Surrey as an "over-worked" county, or they may say it is "fly-blown" topographically, but to those who would have another view I commend a pilgrimage of mill-streams and water-mills—not a quarter of which have been mentioned here.



SUNLIGHT AND SHADOW MAKE PLAY WITH SHALFORD MILL, ON THE WEY, SOUTH OF GUILDFORD

MOHAWKS OF THE WOODS

By J. WENTWORTH DAY

THE park is old, gleaming with running brooks. Its woods stand massed and misty in spring or iron blue in winter, woods planted by old Sir Thomas Day in Stuart times. In those woods, among great oaks whose ancestral acorns were dropped by Saxon oaks that saw the horned midnight chase of Herne the Hunter after Norman buck, when this ancient estate was first carved as a pleasure from the Royal Forest of Windsor; there dwell the English popinjays, as gay and gaudy of dress, as cavalier in manner, as any Georgian Mohawk or Hawkbait, but with as black a roll of sin writ against their names.

If you go up into Sandyles, the old wood of oak and hazel and bracken, the wood that lies beside the high rabbit Warren on a little fold of upland, the wood where they trapped a monstrous poaching cat that weighed 17 lb., the wood where foxes lie warm in sunny corners and woodcock sit close to the ground, their faces to the sun, their feathers blending all too perfectly with dead fern and mottled leaf, up in that old wood you will be greeted by the harsh scream of jays, the watchman's rattle of magpies.

These are the wicked popinjays. Their crimes are heinous, their sins enormous, their cruelties beyond belief—but though I mourn the young birds that they kill in the nest, the eggs that they suck, the peac and cherries that they devour, I would not shoot the last jay if he sat before me, flamboyant and defiant on a branch. And though the tale of the magpie's sins is near as long I could not lift my gun against the last of his race. They are too English, too ancient, too full of colour and impudence, these twin popinjays of the old woods. Their lineage goes too far back in English history. Their roots strike too deeply into dim echoes of Saxon forests and Norman chase.

They are natives, not foreigners, unlike that other cold-blooded killer of young birds, the little owl. That grey-and-white-mottled ball of feathers with the yellow unblinking eye of malevolence was brought here no more than a bare eighty years ago by Lord Lilford. He, good naturalist though he was, little realised the scourge that would arise among the small birds of English woods when he imported the first few pairs somewhere in the sixties and turned them loose in his wild park at Lilford, where the Ouse waters the wet meadows of Northamptonshire. To-day they are a scourge and pest in every English parish.

I can find little in my heart to excuse them, but I can find some practical excuse for the magpie, less for the jay. For magpies will kill rats. Few people know that. When they do kill a rat they pick his brains out and leave the rest. Like jays, they kill many mice, but

whereas the jay invariably skins a mouse before eating it, the magpie will sometimes bolt it whole, skin and all. Even so, their twin tale of dead mice and rats does not counter their wickedness among the eggs of game-birds and song-birds, their wholesale slaughter of nestlings. A jay will clear a complete nest of young blackbirds or thrushes in five or ten minutes.

A magpie will not only kill young pheasants; Mr. Mortimer Batten has actually seen them attack a full-grown hen grouse with her brood of young. I have seen them feeding on dead sheep and lambs on the Welsh hills and I would give no sick lamb a chance against half a dozen of them if it lay defenceless on a lonely hillock.

When, at Ockwells, in Berkshire, I go into Spring Pond covert, which lies in the park near the house, bosoming like jewels those two or three little carp ponds whence they dug the clay to make the bricks with which they started to build that ancient home in 1422, I see, high in the ragged outcrop, a magpie's nest. There are there and in the other home coverts of Big Thatch and Little Thatch names that please me since they, too, are as old as the house. The nest bulks huge in the tree-top. Great structures of sticks cunningly founded in the branches, built to withstand gales, defy small boys and defeat the egg-stealing beaks of carrion crow, rook and jackdaw. That is why there is a roof of twigs over each nest. And there is a back door and a front door to the nest beneath that roof. So the mother bird can sit safely on her eggs, her beak and eyes peering out of the front door, her long, lustrous tail of metallic blue and white sticking out of the back door and a roof above her back.

Probably the only time when jays and magpies easily fall victims to the keeper's gun is during the nesting season; for then you can riddle the magpie's nest with a charge of shot. And you can shoot the young jays as they squall and clamour in fidgeting family groups in the tops of young firs. I once killed five at one shot after the garden had been pillaged of its young peas. That usually happens when the mother bird is either feeding the young, or, as I guess, reading them a vociferous lesson in the arts of early aviation.

Magpies, they say, pair for life, but if you shoot the hen bird while she has a nest full of eggs, the cock bird will produce another wife by the next morning. She takes over nest, eggs and husband all as a going concern. And if she, too, should happen to meet an early end, another wife will turn up the next day. Indeed, Mr. Thomas Speedy, the Scottish naturalist, once recorded that he shot six hen magpies from the same nest on six mornings running; he



W. J. C. Murray

"TOO FULL OF COLOUR AND IMPUDENCE" TO MERIT DEATH: A FLEDGLING MAGPIE

added that on the second morning, after he had slain the original hen bird, there were no fewer than half a dozen eager spinster spinners circling round the nest begging the cock bird to let them take over the ready-made home and family.

That is another peculiarity of magpies. They will return again and again to the same nesting spot, although, year after year, birds may have been shot there. Once they have made up their minds to stick to a certain place, it may be a tree, a valley or a wood, they come back to it.

To-day, there are far too many jays and magpies all over England. That is because for six or seven years there has been no game preserving and no gamekeepers. Gamekeepers, gardeners and farmers are their principal enemies, but of the three the gamekeeper is the only man who really wages effective war.

There is another bird of the wood which strikes terror into small birds—the great grey shrike, the "butcher" bird of the language. He turns up sometimes in spring, frequently in autumn, and mainly only in the eastern parts of England and Scotland. A bold, aggressive bird with a grey back, black-and-white barred wings and tail, who sings rather like a starling and is more than nine inches in length.

Walk through the woods and you will find on a thorn bush the butcher bird's larder. There they are—small birds, mice, moths, beetles, grasshoppers, all firmly stuck on the spikes of the thorns. I have even seen the carcasses of moles which had been skinned by the mole-catcher and brown ants impaled on the thorns of the larder. The butched bird usually takes up his perch on a bare branch or the top of a tall bush, where he can watch for danger or dart like an arrow on his selected prey.

Two inches shorter in body, and much commoner in Southern England is the red-backed shrike, which turns up regularly every summer and breeds here, and the habits of which are the same through those ancient woods of Ockwells were there none of them its big, grey brother.

But these are birds of which, like the jay and the magpie, a few are enough. The woods would be poorer were there none of any of them. I should take no pleasure in my occasional walks through those ancient woods of Ockwells were there none of them to lighten the glades or sound their warnings from hidden thickets.

As you go through these meadows by that lucent stream, full of watercress and quick, shining runs, of deep pool with a great bed of bordering reeds, which they call Smith's Rushes (and it was there, alas, that in 1938 a keeper shot a bittern for no better reason than that he did not, know what it was), if you walk up the bank of that quick, shroy brook which they call prettily, Lilybrook, since it runs through the fields of the dower house of Ockwells, old Lilybrook Manor, which has still its great walled, grass-grown tilting yard, you will always, at a low, wet place of shallows put up a magpie. That is because the village boys fish there. They cast out their pathetic little roach, their tiny perch to die among the grasses. And the magpies come down and eat them. Which is something that few people know. So should you ever go a-fishing, never leave your catch, whether trout or coarse fish, where a magpie's eye can spy it.

"A JAY WILL CLEAR A COMPLETE NEST OF YOUNG BLACK-BIRDS OR THRUSHES IN FIVE OR TEN MINUTES"

GREAT MOMENTS IN ATHLETICS—V

THE ART OF HURDLING

By LIEUT.-COL. F. A. M. WEBSTER

WHEN hurdle races were held at Eton College in the first quarter of the 19th century they provided a combined test of running and jumping ability.

The idea, in those days, was to make speed between fences and to ensure safety by jumping well clear of each obstacle. That meant landing fairly and squarely on both feet after taking each hurdle, and, consequently, a dead stop before a boy could again get into his running. But the application of mechanics to the hurdler's art soon followed, and men sailed over their fences trunk almost upright, leading leg tucked up well in front and shin parallel to the top rail of the hurdle, with the rear leg trailing. They looked "pretty," but, to quote Kipling, "The Devil whispered behind the leaves, 'It's pretty, but is it A-?"

The "devil" did not think so, and the particular "devil" in question was A. C. M. Croome, the great Oxonian, who achieved Blues for athletics and cricket and was also a distinguished golfer. He held the theory that hurdlers who looked pretty hurdled the wrong way, and his theory it was that put the punch into the modern hurdlers' devastating headlong rush, with every hurdle doing duty as a winning-post.

Croome's perfectly logical conclusions, after studying style and the event exhaustively, were that the bent-leg form was bad—firstly because the upright torso offered too great a surface to wind-resistance, and, therefore, reduced the speed of the athlete; and secondly because, in his opinion, very few men were supple enough in the hip and knee joints to lift the foot to the leading leg up to the level of the crutch. For every inch the ankle was below that level, so many inches higher was it necessary for the hurdler to rise from the ground in affecting the clearance of each of the ten hurdles. This, of course, constituted an unnecessary waste of time. Croome also held that if a "straight-legger" did tap timber he would be bowled right over and put clean out of the race.

In support of his new straight-leg style he argued that, in his way of hurdling, the seat of the athlete's shorts cleared the top rail of the hurdle by an appreciably small margin, that the *forcing* of the body forward above the thigh of the rising leg drove the leading foot more quickly to ground after hurdle clearance and



LORD BURGHLEY (SECOND FROM RIGHT), WINNER OF THE 400 METRES OLYMPIC HURDLES IN 1928 AND OF A NUMBER OF BRITISH TITLES

that, should the hurdler hit the top rail in rising to it, the heel of his shoe would push the barrier over. The straight-legged hurdler would, therefore, not be put out of the race.

When demonstrating this principle upon one occasion the knee of Croome's leading leg made such violent contact with his own thigh that he knocked himself out and came to all mixed up with the fragments of the next fence.

Croome was also of the opinion that hurdling success requires more brains, patience and courage than any other athletic event; and certainly the attainments of the four hurdlers who started in the Oxford and Cambridge race of 1886, which Croome won in 16.4 seconds, seemed to prove his contention.

The quartet comprised A. C. M. Croome, and H. T. Bowley, of Oxford, and J. Le Fleming and J. R. Orford, of Cambridge. In their four

persons there were combined: one rowing, one cricket, one rugby football, two hammer-throwers and four hurdling Blues; the presidents of both athletic clubs; two county cricketers; one champion figure-skater; two holders of National Swimming Association badges; two scratch golfers; four superb hurdlers; one Fellow of a most exclusive college; one university prizeman; and four holders of scholarships or exhibitions, while the names of the four had appeared on seven occasions in some first-class honours list.

Lord Burghley, a fine hurdler, and one of the outstanding personalities of modern athletics, exemplified Croome's dictum. Burghley was not heard of as an athlete at Eton, but when he went up to Magdalene College, Cambridge, in the autumn of 1923, he took to hurdling as a duck takes to water. In 1925 he began an extraordinary run of inter-university successes, winning both the 120 yards high and the 220 yards low hurdles from 1925 to 1927 inclusive. His best times were 15.5 seconds, which equalled the then existing high-hurdles record, and 24.8 seconds for a new low-hurdles record. He was honorary secretary and president of the C.U.A.C.

Meanwhile, other honours were falling fast upon him. He was invincible for Cambridge against the English team and set up new English records for 220 yards of 24.7 seconds, 120 yards hurdles of 14.9 seconds and 440 yards hurdles of 53.8 seconds. Both the two last-named records were made on the same afternoon.

Perhaps the only thing that kept Burghley out of the world's record class of high hurdlers was traceable to an accident in youth which possibly prevented him from throwing his leading leg directly forward over the high fences. At 440 yards and 400 metres over 3-ft. hurdles, however, he was unsurpassed in his generation.

At the Olympic games held at Amsterdam in 1928, Burghley set the seal on a great athletic career when he won the 400 metres hurdle title. He had already won the English 440 yds. title in 54 seconds, but the Americans Taylor and Gibson both had world's records to their credit. In the semi-final Burghley had seemed off form, running third to Taylor and Cuhel, whom the U.S.A. coaches fancied as the potential winner and runner-up. In the final Cuhel had the inside berth and Burghley was badly drawn on the outside, from which position he could not see his rivals until the race was half run, because of the staggered start.

For this reason, and contrary to his custom,



R. M. N. TISDALE (IRELAND) BREASTING THE TAPE IN THE 400 METRES HURDLES AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES HELD AT LOS ANGELES IN 1932

he elected to treat each hurdle as a winning-post. He came into the home stretch dead level with the two dangerous Americans, chopped his stride deliberately to make sure of taking the tenth hurdle, and won from Cuthel and Taylor by the barest inches in 53.4 seconds, a new Olympic record.

Robert Morton Newbiggin Tisdall, known more familiarly to his many friends as Bob, was athletically, and in many other ways, an amazing person. He hailed from Tipperary and when he was a small boy his mother took him to a circus. So fascinated was he that he promptly decided to adopt acrobatics as his profession. For weeks after he spent much time turning cart-wheels, walking on his hands and using the branches of trees in place of a trapeze.

In his first year at Shrewsbury, he did well in a number of junior events, but, at fourteen years of age, the fascination of hurdling had already gripped him. In the following year he entered for both the junior and senior hurdles. He managed to reach the finals of both, but he won neither, and did not forget that lesson. Altogether he won seven different events at Shrewsbury.

Tisdall went up to Cambridge in October, 1927, and my recollection is that he started off with some amazingly good shot-putting performances in the Freshmen's sports of 1928, but confined his attention to that event. In 1929, however, he won the inter-varsity 220 yards low hurdles, and in 1930 he won both hurdle races and beat 40 feet for second place with the shot.

In 1931 Tisdall crowned his Cambridge career with an outstanding performance in the inter-varsity sports. He was president of the C.U.C.A. that year and found himself in an embarrassing position. Upon his shoulders rested the onus of selecting the team to meet Oxford and of awarding the full and the half Blues. Not unnaturally he was difficult about selecting himself to represent Cambridge in four out of the eight events that then comprised the programme. If he did so he would inevitably deprive three of his friends of a coveted honour.

On waking on the morning of the sports, Tisdall had been greeted by the icy blast of a real March wind. He did not feel too happy about the prospects of the day, for failure, after selecting himself for four events, was a possibility too horrible to contemplate.

His first event was the high hurdles, which he won comfortably in 15.5 seconds. This race was followed immediately by the long-jump and the shot-put, scheduled to take place simultaneously. This made things rather awkward for the C.U.C.A. president, since it would be difficult to concentrate sufficiently on either event.

In the second round of the shot-put, however, Tisdall reached 40 feet 8 inches, which he regarded as good enough to win. So he stood on that measurement and devoted himself exclusively to the long jump. He had already jumped twice, but on each occasion had overstepped the take-off board. Now, Lang, of Oxford, registering 22 feet 6 inches, was half a foot ahead of the Cambridge second string.

Tisdall was furious with himself for not having practised his approach and take-off more sedulously and, for the first time that day, felt a warm glow steal over him. Down the cinder path he came, running very fast, felt his spiked bite fairly into the take-off board, and soared up and out in what he knew was going to be a good jump. It was, for it was just over 23 feet.

There was still the quarter-mile to run. Tisdall drew the second lane and was pleased. He would now have two men out ahead upon whom he could keep an eye. In addition, the wide lane ahead was much more likely to have had already passed over it. He made a terribly slow start and never lost touch with his field, caught it, and forged ahead to break the tape in 51 seconds.

In the next instant his feet were swept from under him and he was carried from the arena upon the shoulders of wildly cheering past and present Blues, some of whom were also British and Olympic champions. This is a tribute but rarely paid to an athlete at the inter-varsity sports, even if, like Tisdall, he has

taken part during his varsity career in nine events at the Oxford and Cambridge sports and won seven of them.

To have won four events within the space of a single short winter's afternoon would have been no small achievement with much smaller performances in the old rough-and-ready days of inter-varsity sports. It was simply superb in these modern days of scientific specialisation.

In 1932 Tisdall duly achieved the great ambition of every athlete when he won the 100 metres hurdles at the Olympic games held at Los Angeles. The final took place on August 1, Areckoung, Drew the inside berth, then came Facelli, Italy; Tisdall, Ireland; Hardin, U.S.A.; Burghley, Great Britain; and Morgan Taylor, U.S.A. It was extremely difficult to see which man was leading in the staggered lanes, but the impression created was that Tisdall got his leading foot to ground slightly in advance of the rest of the field over each fence in even the earliest stages of the race. As the field swung into the straight-away it was seen that Bob Tisdall had a clear lead and complete command of the situation.

They rose to the last hurdle with Tisdall clear, Morgan Taylor next, and Burghley just a shade ahead of Hardin. Then the unexpected happened, for the Irishman, in his final head-long rush for the tape, brought down the last fence; his stride was broken; he stumbled on for five or six yards before he regained it; and, meanwhile, Hardin, Taylor and Burghley were closing up in a fierce finishing dash. But so far was Tisdall ahead that he managed to break the tape less than a yard ahead of Hardin, with Taylor third and Burghley fourth. Tisdall's time was 51.8 seconds, but it was not accepted as a world's record because he had knocked down that last hurdle.

These articles are taken from Lieut.-Col. Webster's book *Great Moments in Athletics* to be published shortly by COUNTRY LIFE, price 15s. Previous articles have appeared on December 27, 1946, and January 17, March 28 and May 9, 1947.

A COUNTRYWOMAN'S NOTES

• By EILUNED LEWIS

TO say that in order to understand this country it is necessary to leave it is obviously foolish; no real countryman would tolerate such an absurd assumption. Yet there is this about it: the returning traveller sees with fresh eyes some features of the English landscape which up till then may have been taken for granted. Homeward bound from India after a visit of some months and steaming up Southampton Water I felt that I understood for the first time the reason why the people of this island are so given to sudden violence—why they have produced the world's best school of water-colour painting; and why English women—unlike their sisters in tropical lands—dress in colours which resemble as closely as possible their own ploughed fields and quiet hedges.

Our ship landed on a so-called sunny day, in a summer season when soft was the sunne, yet to our eyes there appeared a luminous veil round each object—church tower, red-roofed cottage and budding elm. The great procession of English water-colourists, from Cox and Cotman, from the heavenly Constable sketches and early Turners down to the painstaking efforts of maiden aunts, hung in the bedrooms of country houses, is explained by that shimmering atmosphere, that exquisite chemistry compounded of fitful gleam and passing shower.

• * *

SOUTHAMPTON WATER, by the way, should always be chosen for the first view of this country. The Clyde, although magnificent, has too unreliable a climate; Mersey mouth is better forgotten; but the wooded shores of the Solent and the green lawns of the Isle of Wight, the contiguity of castle, farm and hamlet give an impression of England which may be idyllic compared with some of the grimier portions of this island, but is certainly very welcome. The effect on our ship's passengers was remarkable. Many of them were Australians, seeing this

country for the first time; some of them were coming home (for England is Home to all Australians) after an absence of many years. One of these—a Scot, needless to say—broke into fervent speech at the sight of those pleasant Hampshire fields. "Man, you see all that green!" he exclaimed to the youth beside him, "You'll see that nowhere else in the world except England, Scotland and Ireland. And the further north you go, the greener it gets!"

* * *

OUR shipload of passengers from "Down Under" (we had joined them at Bombay) was interesting. There were so many of them, and their appetites were so good that there were moments when our heads misgave us at the thought of so many hearty hungry people finally approaching our lean shores. I ventured to express something of this fear to the comfortable lady seated beside me at table, but she replied imperiously that she had arranged for a regular service of food parcels to reach her from Sydney. She herself, grey-haired and already a great-aunt, was going "home" for the first time in her life to visit relatives in East Anglia, and intended staying for a year. The rest of our table was an amusing cross-section. It included two Glasgow engineers, one of whom had become an Australian citizen, but both retaining their native speech after a sojourn of many years; the merry little wife of a professional motor-cyclist from Sydney; a spirited lady who ran a business of her own in Glamorgan and said she was "English and proud of it"; and a pretty Australian bride. There were a great many brides on board, and very pleasant they looked, coming to wed British sailors and soldiers. But I hope an equal number of English girls are marrying Australians in order to square the account.

THE "Brides from the Bush" carried an air of adventure which was very taking. Another youthful bride whom I saw a few weeks later had all the opposite charm of seclusion; not could any of us envisage her to be more different than the deck of a civil transport, and the fusty mountaintop above a Swiss lake.

The village street up which this "sweet stay-at-home" walked with her bridegroom had everything necessary for a musical comedy background. (If the sturdy, sensible inhabitants did not belie the idea, Switzerland would be altogether too good to be true in present-day Europe.) There were the freshly painted chalets, the lilac and wisteria and the sunshine; the young green of the terraced vineyards sloping down to the lake and the bridal party wending its way upwards to the inn for the wedding feast. "Wending" is the appropriate word for so romantic an occasion, but they were actually striding uphill like honest *gens du pays*, the bride lifting her white frock out of the dust, the men all sporting buttonholes of narcissi and exchanging jocular remarks.

* * *

THE flower-decked wedding breakfast was spread in a room below the maid-servant of the inn ran to and fro with dishes. While the happy pair were being toasted downstairs we feasted on roast chicken, white bread, excellent cheese, and a bottle of red wine. From distant meadows, thick with flowers, came the comforting tink-tonk of cow bells, and a garden-warbler with its little fountain of song among the cherry trees beside the inn. Lofty Alps towered on the horizon and but a few miles away lay the buzz and sophistication of a city. To anyone grown equally weary of austerity and cynicism that village street and those meadows half-way up the mountain, starry with bloom as the *flammeuses* of French tapestry, might well seem quiet perfection.



1.—WYE CHURCH AND COLLEGE WITH WYE DOWN FROM THE BANKS OF THE STOUR

WYE COLLEGE, KENT

A FIFTH CENTENARY

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

Founded by Cardinal Kemp in 1447 as a College of Priests and Grammar School the building became in 1892 the South Eastern Agricultural College now reconstructed as the Department of Agriculture and Horticulture of London University and incorporating Swanley College

WYE COLLEGE has within a generation become a name well known to all connected with agricultural education and increasingly so to those who are not. But few probably have realised that this now famous institution inherited a building founded as a College five centuries ago in which the tradition of teaching has survived almost continuously. Very appropriately the re-establishment of Wye College as the Department of Agriculture and Horticulture of London University and incorporation with it of the Horticultural College of Swanley (destroyed by bombs in 1940) is being made the occasion on Friday June 13 of commemorating the fifth centenary of the original foundation by Cardinal Kemp, Lord Chancellor to King Henry VI.

The little town of Wye lies some five miles from Ashford just off the Canterbury road in the fertile valley of the Stour that bisects the Downs. It is sheltered on the east by Wye Down shown to be a place of high antiquity by the group of barrows which crown it. The narrow street climbing from the bridge rebuilt in 1838 was described by

Harris (1719) as formerly full of Inns the gatehouses of which were standing within living memory and now consists chiefly of little Georgian houses.

Church Street (Fig. 2) turning off at right angles brings into view beyond the remains of the Green the odd massive shape of the Church and the College's low red roofs clustered immediately to the east of it. These are now grouped round five quadrangles which follow in the local materials of brick, flint and ragstone the character of University buildings with the fields of the College estate immediately behind them. This consists of two farms commercially operated and a third area recently acquired to be developed as gardens for the new horticultural department the country house to which it belonged being now converted to a hall of residence for women students.

One of the farm houses has been made into a house for the Principal Mr Dunstan Skilbeck thus releasing for communal use the rooms in the old quadrangle allotted for two hundred years to the

Master of the Grammar School. The recent overhaul of the buildings necessitated by five years of disuse, occupation by the Army and bomb blast from near misses has been supervised by Mr Sidney Loweth the County Architect and has much improved the accommodation and planning as well as providing a collegiate dining hall (in what was the gymnasium) additional bathrooms and sanitation and regrouped the study bedrooms for about 95 students.

Wye Church was originally cruciform with a central tower and three chanels. But in 1685 the tower fell destroying all the eastern part containing the tomb of Cardinal Kemp's parents and the chapels served by the collegiate priests. Harris writing within memory of the event described the chancel as having been 'choir fashion well wains cotted and seated round'. I saw some statues and fragments of monuments. But in 1706 the débris had been cleared away and the existing short apse and low blunt tower (Fig. 5) were erected. Thus only the nave remains of the church probably built about 1400 by the Abbot of Battle, lord of the manor and no doubt much beautified by Kemp.

The old quadrangle of the College of St. Gregory and St. Martin is the western most of those forming the present College. Permission for the foundation was given by royal licence dated 1431 and it was sufficiently advanced in 1447 for the staff to be appointed. They numbered a Master, six priests, two clerks, two choristers and a Master of Grammar that shall freely teach all that wol come to his teaching—in the Founder's words to the end that as he set forth in the Statutes 'the art of grammar being the foundation of all liberal Arts and Sciences, its study may not be neglected for want of a Master nor the sons of the poor by reason of its expense be debarred there from.'

It consisted of buildings round three sides of a court with a hall forming the east side the west side closed by a wall containing a way through to the churchyard. Probably a timber pentice round the court formed a cloister. Detached some 60 ft from the south west corner was a single-storey building some 15 by 40 ft with finely cut door in its west end. A survey in 1553 describes the



2.—CHURCH STREET, WYE



3.—THE SOUTH FRONT OF THE COLLEGE AND THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

College as "built 4 square, the overpart of timber, the nether part stone, saving the Hall of it which is all of stone, covered with slate," and comprising "a parlour 20 ft. square ceiled with old wainscot at the upper end of the Hall, a chamber over it of like size; the rest of the lodgings on that side little chambers above and beneath; at the end of the hall a kitchen, with the buttery, larder, pantry and other offices on that side; over them two large chambers, the one ceiled." Much of this recognisably survives. But then the survey adds "at the entry of the gate, on the right hand, a fair Chapel with seats and Altar of wainscot, and on the left hand the Porter's lodge." The position of this entry raises a problem involving the original purpose of the beautiful little detached building standing at the corner of the churchyard and college garden and known traditionally as the Old Grammar School (Fig. 6).

It has often been regarded as the domestic chapel. The fine quality of its west door, enriched with embattled cresting, and cusped windows set singly or in pairs, might substantiate this view. But it was for long a ruin and has been much altered, with an 18th-century hipped roof and the lower part of the windows bricked up. A curious feature is a lion's (?) head projecting from the quoins at the south-west angle. If it is the chapel referred to in the 1553 survey as on the right of the gate, then the lion's head might have been the corbel of a gate arch linking it to a porter's lodge that has disappeared, and giving into some kind of outer court. But there is still a doorway in the west wall of the quadrangle, opening into the churchyard—which was, of course, the direction that the priests usually required to go. Moreover, the three westernmost windows in the ground floor of the College's

south front (Fig. 3) are of single lights somewhat higher than the others, and there is a three-light west window round the corner, suggesting that they are those of a small domestic chapel. This would thus have lain to the right of the gate in the west wall of the quadrangle, as described in the survey. In that case the porter's lodge was in the north-west corner of it, and the detached building will have been the Grammar School from the outset. This is confirmed by the will (in the British Museum under "Wye") of William Sowrils, Chaplain of the College, 1513, desiring "to be

buried in the churchyard before the door of the grammar school"—which opens from it. However, a survey of 1744 undoubtedly alludes to it, after enumerating the contents of the quadrangle, as "the School formerly the Chapel," though probably in error. It was about 1739 that the buildings had assumed their present appearance, Cardinal Kemp's timber-framed upper storey being then rebuilt in brick with sash windows. Inside the quadrangle a cloister is described (in 1794) as having been "pulled down about 50 years since and altered to several brick



4.—CLOISTERS (1739) AND HALL, LOOKING EAST



5.—THE WEST, ORIGINAL ENTRANCE, FRONT OF THE COLLEGE, with modern extensions to the left and the Queen Anne church tower

pillars and arches" (Fig. 4). With its hall in the east side (opposite the gateway), domestic chapel, chambers, parlour, Master's lodging, and timber framing above a stone ground floor, the building belonged to that type of chantry college of which so many were founded in the 15th century, with or without a secondary educational purpose. Not many, however, have materially survived, and few so near completely as Wye. Cobham, Kent (1370), later converted to an alms-house, is one; Tong, Shropshire (1410), recently described here, survives only in fragments. Ewelme, Oxfordshire, almost exactly contemporary, belongs to the much larger and better preserved class that were founded as alms-houses.

John Kempe (1380-1454) was second son of Thomas Kempe of Olantigh, a seat in Wye parish which the family had possessed since the days of Edward I. Though a priest he was always primarily a lawyer, and as Bishop, Archbishop successively of York and Canterbury, Cardinal, and twice Lord Chancellor, he was one of the leading politicians and administrators of Henry VI's reign. Among his fellow prelates were Chichele,

Waynflete and Beckington, all closely associated with educational foundations, and he himself was concerned in the building of the Divinity Schools at Oxford. But, beyond giving Merton College graduates preference in appointments to Wye College, he was not a direct benefactor to his University, concentrating his resources on this foundation in his home town, of which he evidently was very fond. A passage has already been quoted from the original text of his personal letter to the Abbot of Battle, proposing the foundation of the College and certain compensations to the Abbot as lord of the manor. Its language brings Kempe vividly before us, as he explains that his reasons were: "augmentation of the nombr' of God's minist' & s'vice in the Chirch of Wy; furthering enriching and profit of thair (the Abbot's and convent's) toun ther the which is like ellis process of tym greetyl to decrease ait semyth; and for so much of the said Archibishop that was bornyn and bright forth withinne the said p'iss'h, & wher also (lie) meny of the bodys of his auncestors alivys and freends that be passed to God, the which he desirith especially to be prayyd for restyn,

purposith . . . to stablish a felaship of God's Ministrs . . . The Statutes laid down the conduct of the fellowship in minute detail, how they were to have meals in common in the hall or parlour, as in a refectory, when scripture was to be read aloud and Latin spoken, unless any stranger should be a guest; the value of hospitality to guests (if at the first table two pence, ■■■ at the second one penny) and if a workman, for a week or more, the cost to come from the common purse; how games of dice and ball and "Summer Games" were forbidden; and how Fellows must not walk abroad alone "unless it is to the church or school." This last injunction would confirm the detached building being the schoolroom, which lay just outside the cloister.

At the Dissolution the College was given to Walter Bucer, secretary to Queen Katherine Parr; from him it passed through various hands, full record of which is lost, and appears to have belonged about 1610 to Sir William Monyns, of Waldershare. His and the arms of Twisden (his wife's) occur in the decoration of one of the rooms, and in a large fireback dated 1610 discovered in the old



7.—DOORWAY TO STAIRCASE IN NORTH CLOISTER

kitchen. The College had evidently been converted to a residence, and from that time dates an oak staircase in the north range set just inside a Gothic door from the cloister (Fig. 7). The newels were surmounted by figures of "ancient Britons" now standing on the floor of the old parlour (Fig. 10). This is at right angles to the north end of the hall, and contains a Bethesda marble fireplace, wainscot and enriched pilasters of this period or slightly earlier, with fine linenfold panels that date to before the Dissolution (Fig. 8). The 1553 survey refers to a square parlour "ceiled with old wainscot" in this position, so that the library was evidently formed at a later date by throwing the adjoining room or rooms into one.

Maintenance of the Grammar School was made a condition of the grant of the College to Bucer and, although there is some doubt whether he or his successors contributed to it, the School appears to have been continued after the Reformation by its former Master and then by his son—both apparently faithful



6.—CARDINAL KEMPE'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL



8.—LINENFOLD PANELS IN THE READING ROOM (Right) 9.—THE HALL, NOW THE LIBRARY, NORTH END

to the old religion—till 1595. In 1625 a new grant was made to one Robert Maxwell, who agreed to provide a Grammar Master. In 1708 Lady Joanna Thornhill, of Olantigh, bequeathed a sum to pay for both a master and mistress to live in the northern half of the buildings, and keep a boys' and a girls' free school there, "for the poorest sort of children" in addition, it seems, to the Grammar School in the separate building, where perhaps a fee was now charged. In 1724 the will of Sir George Wheeler—antiquary, traveller (in the Near East) and cleric, who had bought Wye College and the ruins of Charing Palace—gave the southern half of the quadrangle for the Grammar School-master's use, besides providing for a Wye scholar to proceed to Lincoln College, Oxford. The rebuilding in brick of the upper storey and cloister—which gives such charming character to the quadrangle—followed these endowments. Both the Thornhill and the Grammar Schools were flourishing at the end of the 18th century, and again about 1840-50, when the old outbuildings adjoining the south-east corner of the quadrangle were reconstructed as a girls' schoolroom, the boys continuing to use the Hall. But by 1874 both were in low water, the buildings being leased in 1889 as a private school and in 1892 transferred by the Charity Commissioners to the County Councils of Kent and Surrey for an Agricultural College.

The credit for this singularly imaginative transformation is largely due to the first Chairman of the Governing Body, Mr. E. J. Halsey, and the Vice-chairman, Sir John Lennard, Bt., of the Surrey and Kent County Councils respectively; and the first Principal of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Mr. Alfred Daniel Hall. To Sir Daniel himself, as he later became, is due the rapidity and success with which the Agricultural College built up a world-wide reputation.



Big extensions, including the present front quadrangle and entrance, adjoining the old College to the east, were made in 1914-15. In the recent alterations the old Hall has become the main library, and the medieval domestic chapel in the south-west corner, formerly the Principal's drawing-room, the Senior Common Room.

Thus the five centuries of Wye College's existence, being commemorated to-day, are curious but continuous. Already its

former students since the second reformation are to be found in every Colony and Dominion as well as in a large number of foreign countries, working as administrators, plantation managers, farmers, and business men. While the Royal College at Cirencester is the oldest Agricultural College, Wye is perhaps even more widely known and, as has been shown, can claim actual seniority as a college to Eton and King's, which, with 'All Souls', are Wye's contemporaries.



10.—THE READING ROOM (PARLOUR) with Elizabethan wainscot and the "ancient Britons" figures originally on the staircase newels

THE CITY REVISED

THE exercises of the imagination called for on the part of Londoners by successive plans for the City's reconstruction must by now have loosened up that faculty to a thoroughly plausible condition. The face of London, to which the epithet unchanging was commonly (though never accurately) applied, but which undeniably possessed many attributes of permanence, has become like nothing so much as one of those indiarubber faces one could buy and contort into any expression by manipulating it in one's fingers. The Royal Academy plans made the first face, the more advanced modern planners made another in the *Architectural Review*, then came the City Engineer's (1944), which the then Minister of Planning returned for further consideration. The latest, that of the consultants then appointed, Dr. C. H. Holden and Professor W. G. Holford, embodies features of its predecessors but is much more drastic and much more constructive. We must not tire of heroic conceptions, although it will certainly be encouraging when, out of all the visions and revisions, something more than a few hundreds of cottages get actually built. Only by going over the plans again and again will ideas, practical requirements, costs and material factors be gradually resolved with one another into the best attainable new city.

The Consultants' Plan, let it be said at once, takes us a long way forward towards this objective. It applies a reasoned and at the same time a creative modern conception to the actual problems confronting the City, and as such is the most constructively feasible proposal that has been hitherto advanced for London or any other closely built English city. The recommendations made for the lines of main thoroughfares and new open spaces, following or diverging from previous plans, are noteworthy, but it is its revolutionary yet reasoned and receptive moulding of the conception of a modern, and historical, commercial centre which constitutes its chief importance. This underlies and conditions the detailed pro-

posals for street lines and at the same time provides a practical basis for the evolution of a new kind of city architecture.

Planning in the past, deriving from Renaissance precedent, has conceived a city as a pattern of streets lined by continuous buildings interrupted only by important monuments. As land increased in value and demand for space grew, so the height of façades rose to the level sanctioned by successive Building Acts. The results have been the shutting out of daylight from the streets, the congestion of traffic and canalising of its noise, a monotonous skyline, and overcrowding of population in relation to street area. On the other hand, behind these façades, the backs of high buildings have been left virtually undesignated and, but for the fact that it was not worth while to rebuild the old, low, properties on courts or back streets to the general level, would have produced solid blocks of buildings ventilated only by light-wells and containing far more people than channels of transport could cope with. Actually, the average height of buildings was found to be only four storeys above ground and one below,

in spite of the large number of high modern buildings, which leads the Consultants to observe ironically that working conditions in the City have owed much to those owners of older, smaller buildings which have conserved light and space for others.

Against a background of the County of London Plan, and of the material prospects of reconstruction (divided into a ten-year, and a thirty-year, term as from 1948), the Consultants begin their scheme with an analysis of accommodation in terms of floor space—the first time this has been attempted in England. This leads them to propose, as the standard plot ratio throughout, a normal capacity of floor space per building five times the size of the buildings area. This contrasts with a present maximum of 10.5 and an average over-all of 5.2, and would give 472,000 as the day-time working population. The effect of applying this form of density control would be to reduce the area of floor space round the Bank from 13.4 million sq. ft. to 9.8 million; and round St. Paul's from 8.0 to 7.6 million; but to increase it slightly elsewhere.

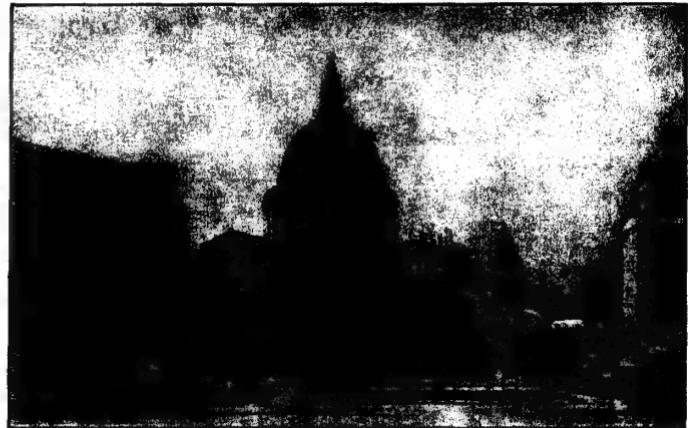
Having established the human density to be catered for, the Report turns to the shape of buildings. It suggests that the whole City should be regarded as a single "use-zone," thus eliminating the differential treatments previously recommended; and, largely through the new power of compulsory acquisition, that blocks be redesigned and redeveloped as wholes. As for the means of controlling design: instead of the present limitation of sheer height to 80 ft., with an over-all height of 100 ft., they propose a total permissive height of 120 ft., provided that the angle of daylight from the cornice level (or first set-back) of a building to the opposite paneled shall not be more than 50 degrees, with a special ratio where historic buildings are involved.

The effect of these provisions would be to universalise the type of block at present represented by St. James's Park Underground and the Bank of England: blocks pyramidal in general outline but consisting actually in a series of stepped-back blocks and projections rising to full height only above the middle of the plot, or where facing open space. As long as the density ratio was not exceeded it would be open to the architect to shape his block in accordance with the angles of light, as he chose. Thus a virtually new type of city building would replace the type originally produced by the 1667 Act, applying to London the principle of the Zoning Law which revolutionised New York architecture some 25 years ago, just as Stuart London was rebuilt on the system then introduced from Holland. Few English precedents exist as yet for the architectural character of such buildings, and such as there

1.—ST. PAUL'S FROM THE NORTH-EAST, AS REVEALED BY THE PROPOSED NEW ST. MARTIN'S-LE-GRAND SQUARE. Drawing by Jasper Salvey



2.—THE PROPOSED NEW STREET PROLONGING LONDON WALL, AND INDICATING THE POSSIBLE NEW TYPE OF CITY BUILDINGS



are are in many cases not inspiring (e.g., some of the newer blocks of flats at Westminster). But the possibilities are great, and schools of architecture should lose no time in exercising students in developing them.

Several of the sketch designs of street scenes made for the Report give some idea of the City's appearance when rebuilt on this system (e.g., Fig. 2).

The street plan involves more sweeping changes than the Corporation's version. Railway stations are conceived as eliminated during the period beginning 1957, though Blackfriars railway bridge would be retained for traffic (and the present road bridge removed). Large bridge-head *places* are attached to Blackfriars and London Bridges, and big traffic-circuses set at Gray's Inn Road, Holborn Circus, Ludgate Circus, the Bank, and St. Martin's-le-Grand, besides the new Square already proposed at Mansion House Station. The Bank Square envisages the removal of the Mansion House to an enclave formed round the Guildhall. The precinct of St. Paul's is pushed back to Paternoster Row and Carter Lane—its extent as originally envisaged by Wren. A stepped way south from St. Paul's to the river would be narrower than the vista previously proposed there, though a pleasing touch is the recommendation, inherited from the R.A. Report, that ceremonial river processions to St. Paul's should by this means be restored. The line of the new way may have to be modified to avoid Mr. Silkin's chimney terminating the vista from Wren's south transept.

The by-passing system consists of new thoroughfares, double-decked for part of their courses, north and south of the City. The southern, from Blackfriars to Tower Bridge approach, scraps the Corporation's tentative



3.—BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF PROPOSED GUILDFHALL PRECINCT COMPRISING NEW CORPORATION OFFICES

extension of the Embankment in favour of the Thames Street line. As property along the route is rebuilt, raised roadways on each side would be formed leaving the present street level for warehouse traffic only. The route passes to the north of Tower Hill, avoiding the bisection of this open space which was an objection to the earlier plan. The northern route, from the new

Gray's Inn roundabout, goes by Charles Street over Farringdon Road, thence skirting Finsbury Circus to the north and across the site of the south end of Liverpool Street Station (which it is proposed to remove southwards), linking up via Middlesex Street with Aldgate. A new inner distributive road is plotted from Ludgate Circus, passing between St. Bartholomew's Hospital and the G.P.O. and cutting through to a widened London Wall. A new low-level street links Gresham Street with Cannon Street (at the new Square) by passing under Cheapside at St. Mary le Bow Church (Fig. 4). Existing through routes are recommended to be widened.

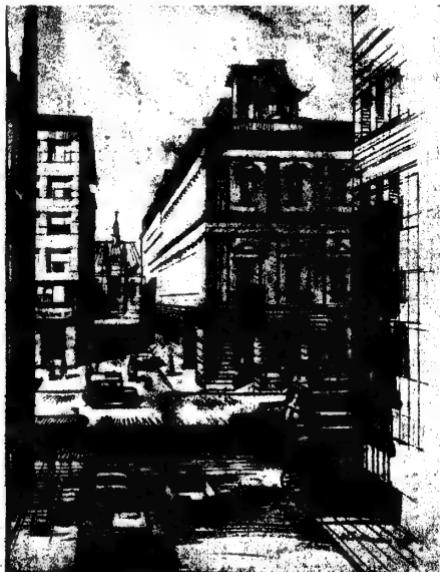
A special section is devoted to car parking. Public car parks accommodating 3,150 cars are shown under new circuses and double-deck roads, and with lay-bys and other spaces, parking for a total of 4,520 is provided.

Monuments, churches, and important modern architecture have received careful thought. In general, they will be not only very much better seen, in particular St. Paul's from the new squares N.E. and S.E. of it, but in many cases be set in precincts, e.g., Guildhall and the Tower. The effect of the plan is indeed to convert most areas between main routes into precincts. The plan has been made that spaces are wasted as gardens in traffic circuses. But the waste is offset by the increased building height, and the car parks below.

The architectural opportunities presented, in conjunction with the new powers of acquisition and the competent handling of the traffic problem, makes of the Plan a soberly inspiring prospect, worthy of the traditions and nobility of London.

However, no sites for power stations are provided, so at any point the Government may step in and queer the whole pitch.

C. H.



4.—THE CHEAPSIDE UNDERPASS AT ST. MARY-LE-BOW. The underpass would connect Gresham and Cannon Streets. (Right) 5.—LOOKING UP KING STREET TO GUILDFHALL showing dredging of an existing building to widen roadway. The drawings 2, 4 and 5 are by H. N. Mason



BIRDS SAILORS SEE

By E. A. WALLIS

I have always surprised me that so few sailors know anything about the birds they see during their voyages. Yet they have unique opportunities to watch and study a great many species of birds that relatively few people are ever likely to see alive. The oceans of the world have a vast bird population; and, as is perhaps only natural, far less is known about many of the sea-birds than is known about the land-birds. Most of the sea-birds never set foot on land except during the few weeks of the nesting season. The rest of the year is spent far out at sea.

The bridge or deck of a ship may not appear to be a specially good place for bird-watching. All the same, anyone who is interested in ornithology will find a great deal of material to study even during a comparatively short voyage. For not only are there the sea-birds; there are also, especially nearer the coasts and, above all, in the Mediterranean, a great variety of land-birds that settle for a time on the ship. Occasionally these land-birds give you a surprise.

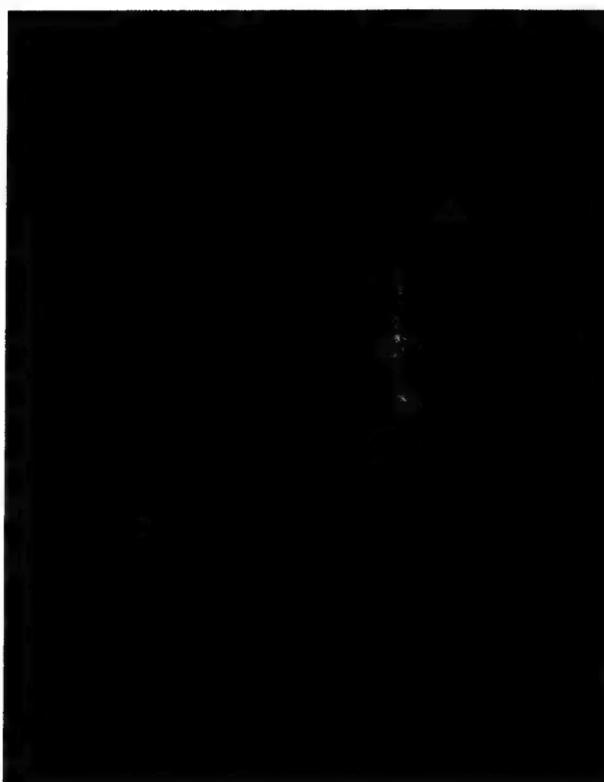
On April 6, 1945, 120 miles west of the coast of Portugal, a wood-pigeon came aboard at day-break, and rested on the topping lifts for some hours. On May 15, 1945, on our way to New York we were accompanied for two days by several starlings, and a curlew flew over the after-deck, but could not find a satisfactory perch; and two days later, when the ship's position was 26° west, another curlew came aboard during the night and stayed with us till late in the afternoon. Again, on October 31, 1945, between 200 and 300 miles north-east of the Azores, an owl, a starling and a peregrine falcon were all on the ship together. I had only a fleeting glimpse of the owl, which was about the size of a barn-owl, but much darker.

During the spring and autumn migrating periods a trip down the Mediterranean is a source of constant interest to a bird-lover. Starlings, swallows, larks, wagtails, chaffinches, willow-wrens and chiffchaffs all come aboard regularly, and it is not at all unusual to see garden-warblers and blackcaps running about the decks. In the Eastern Mediterranean we have had a great many quails, turtle-doves, and small warblers and several hoopoes and little owls on board. Once there were four peregrine falcons and eight scope owls on the rigging and yard-arms; and a stone-curlew accompanied us for two whole days, running about the decks without showing fear of anyone.

The sight of these birds perched on the stays or rigging or picking up scraps of food on the decks is always a joy. They are usually much tamer on board a ship than they are on land, probably by reason of the physical exhaustion that has overtaken them after a long flight across the sea. They are ready to take advantage of anything that offers them a chance of a rest. Yet only a small fraction of migrating land-birds ever settle on ships. I have seen robins, thrushes, starlings, lapwings, avocets, swallows and house-martins and other land-birds flying low over the sea quite near the ship but making no effort to settle on it.

Perhaps it is natural that I should pay special attention to the sea-birds. It is true that they are fewer in species than the land-birds, but that makes up for this by their interest, and by the fact that you have to go to sea to meet with them.

As you leave the coastal waters on a trip across the North Atlantic the gulls and gannets, razorbills and guillemots drop astern until, when the ship is well out at sea, their place is taken by other species of oceanic birds. Gulls, such as the herring, black-backed and common, are rare beyond 150 miles or so from land. The only really oceanic gull in the Northern Hemisphere is the kittiwake, though I have seen the black-headed gull far out in the Atlantic and as far south as the Azores. The kittiwake is the gull of the North Atlantic. On more than one crossing I have seen them every day. It is interesting that many of these graceful birds that follow the ship for a whole day may have been hatched on the Farne Islands or on the cliffs of Yorkshire or Ireland. During a northern winter they stray as far as Newfoundland.



Probably the commonest sea-bird in the Atlantic north of the Azores is the fulmar. Both light and dark phases occur, though the light phase is much the commoner. You see them all the year round right up to the American coast, though they are commonest in the eastern half of the Ocean. Around the Azores the southern lesser-black-backed and yellow-legged gulls are quite common, the former easily distinguished from the northern race by its much lighter back. In the harbour at Halifax, Nova Scotia, I have seen a few Kumlein's gulls, very much like a herring-gull, but with much less shear on the wing-tips.

The shearwaters and storm-petrels of the North Atlantic are a constant source of interest and wonder. It is none too easy to identify the various species unless by chance some individual happens to get blown on to the ship, when you can examine it at leisure. Generally speaking the two shearwaters of the eastern side of the Atlantic are the Manx and Mediterranean. Both these species are abundant during the winter months. Farther west, and particularly during the northern summer, the great and sooty shearwaters (both species that nest right down to the Antarctic) appear in vast numbers as far north as the Newfoundland Banks. With them are thousands of Wilson's petrels, another sea-bird whose nesting home is the extreme south—on the islands around Cape Horn and the Antarctic Continent.

A note in my bird-diary runs as follows:—

"May 25, 1945. Eleventh day out. 39° 1/2' N., 70° W. A Wilson's petrel flew aboard during my watch and was handed to me at midnight, apparently undamaged and in good condition, merely dazed by the bright artificial lights, which no doubt attracted it. (I was at the time serving in one of H.M. Hospital Ships.) He rested quietly on the settee in my cabin throughout the night, burrowing down under the cushion, and at eight o'clock in the morning I took him up to the bridge and released him from the lee-hab. As I dropped him out of the ab window he spread his wings and took the air in perfectly normal flight."

Some eight days later I wrote in my diary: "Halifax, Nova Scotia, to Liverpool. 43° N., 50° W. South of the Great Newfoundland Bank. Dense fog all day. . . . It lifted for an hour at sunset. Then I found the ocean to be full of bird-life. Storm-petrels and shearwaters were everywhere, flying in all directions, sometimes in small parties, sometimes in large flocks. Many of the birds were sitting on the water resting or feeding, and we passed through several vast flocks. These birds were not travelling in concerted movement, as were the shearwaters and Wilson's petrels I observed only a few days ago three degrees farther south, where there was a marked trend towards the north, all the birds being continuously on the wing. . . . This suggests that I have been privileged to witness not only the northward migration of vast numbers of shearwaters but also the

termination of the migration and their arrival at their wintering grounds in the cold waters of the Labrador Current."

It was interesting to reflect that these birds were some 7,000 miles distant from their breeding homes in the Southern Hemisphere.

There is something awe-inspiring in the sight of shearwaters and storm-petrels following the ship in the teeth of an Atlantic gale. The smaller storm-petrels are no bigger than house-martins. The speed with which they travel in a high wind is amazing. Keeping their wings rigid, they literally skim over the waves, often cutting the surface with their wing-tips. It should be remembered, too, that these little creatures live thousands of miles from land during winter and survive the worst Atlantic weather.

In the tropical and sub-tropical parts of the Atlantic you occasionally see the very red-tailed tropic-bird, pure white with enormously long tail-feathers. I have seen them off the Bermudas, but they do not come far into the

northern parts of the ocean. There are only three species of tropic-birds. The two central feathers of the tail are enormously elongated and may be as much as two-thirds of the total length of the bird. They are known to sailors as bosun's birds. There I saw were about 1,000 miles from the nearest land.

Two other kinds of birds that are not uncommon in the North Atlantic call for a brief mention—the skuas and the auk. I have seen four species of skua during the runs from England to America—the great, the arctic, the pomarine and the long-tailed skua. Their dark plumage, the light patches on the wings, and, in the pomarine and long-tailed, the long feather of the tail, make them easily distinguishable from gulls, even at a considerable distance. Their flight is rapid, and they get their food by chasing terns and gulls and making them disgorge the contents of their crops. Arctic and pomarine skuas are seen mainly in the eastern side of the Atlantic, but I have

seen great skuas quite near the American coast. Of the auk family the little auk, a purely Arctic species, is the only one regularly found far from land. I have seen puffins 300 miles out, but the guillemots and razorbills seem to range in the waters much nearer the coast. Guillemots will go considerable distances during the nesting season to find food for their young. During a trip to Northern Russia in June, 1945, I saw many more than 20 miles out at sea flying landwards with fish in their beaks.

It is noteworthy, in considering the seabirds generally, that several species migrate from the far south around the Antarctic Continent to the far north of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans during the southern winter. Conversely, such species as the arctic and sandwich terns, which nest in the Northern Hemisphere up to the Arctic, go as far south as the Antarctic during the northern winter. So far as I know few land-birds that nest in the Southern Hemisphere come north of the Equator on winter migrations.

PROBLEMS

THE first thing every prospective gun-dog owner must decide is whether to choose a youngster or one advertised as fully trained. Either way there are several pros and cons. If you purchase a "made" animal, you get a dog whose habits have been inculcated or good or ill by someone else. Since no two men handle a dog alike, his ways may not be your ways, and possibly you have to start and break established traits which is not easy.

You may say that the average intelligent dog can understand anything within reason, provided he is not too old. Possibly, but the early lessons are the foundation on which the whole structure, so to speak, is built, and the character of the grown dog depends almost entirely on the way basic principles have been taught. Provided, therefore, that you have the leisure and aptitude for training, there is more to be aid, I think, in favour of purchasing a puppy than an adult dog. It will be a "one-man" dog in the sense that an animal which has passed through other hands can never be; you will establish that intimate relationship at its most impressionable age, which has so important bearing on the dog's working capacity later on.

The choice of a puppy intended purely as a companion is seldom a matter of much difficulty. Provided the dog is well-looking and alert, his companionable qualities are probably of more moment to his prospective owner than his physical attributes. Yet the latter are emphatically important in dogs designed for specialist work.

Naturally, with very young dogs a good deal must be taken on trust. No one can tell at a tender age how a puppy's nose, his hunting qualities, or even his intelligence, is going to develop. But you can make a very intelligent guess at a youngster's possibilities if you have the choice of a litter running free, for you will naturally reject the shy timid creature which shrinks away from you in favour of a bold pup, full of life and at his toes, and the greater his capacity for mischief the more will he merit your further attention.

So you may then ask the kennel-owner for a rather closer scrutiny, and let us hope the puppy of your provisional choice has a bright intelligent eye, a broad forehead, for even if the dictates of "fashion" suggest an elongated head, you want brain in a working dog and the room for their development which a nicely rounded skull affords. You will look for open nostrils and a wide nose, for deep shoulders, well-sprung ribs, firm loins and thighs which give muscular promise. And, however good a dog may be in other respects, if he is weak in the hindquarters or wrong in the feet, reject him, for these points in an animal which has to gallop freely over rough country and endure a long day's work are of primary importance.

First, then, have the puppy trotted backwards and forwards so that you can watch his action from the front and rear, and note whether his movements are free or stiff. Then put him on a table and examine his feet, the conformation of which should be compact, with toes

OF BUYING

By J. B. DROUGHT

neither arched nor spreading. Look for any sign of inflammation or abscesses between the toes. The latter, if present in a puppy, probably arise from some inherent weakness, and being likely in such a case to be recurring, should be enough to cause rejection, but inflammatory symptoms, probably as the result of slightly "fired" feet, are a matter of minor importance. Then run your hands down the dog's legs to make sure the hocks are straight and well developed, see that he is not a "cow-hocked" dog and that he stands firm and squarely on all legs. Your pup may show signs of worms, but otherwise at a tender age his condition is unlikely to indicate ill that adult dogflesh is heir to. Still, it is better to be sure than sorry, and a bright coat may cover a blemished body, so turn the hair well back and look for any sign of scab or inflammation. Be sure there is no redness or swelling about the flaps of the ears, no discharge therefrom, and satisfy yourself that the pup is not even slightly deaf.

Test the sight very carefully; white spots around the eye pupil suggest possible cataract later on, and the whites of the eye should be perfectly clear. Inflammation round the rims of the eyelid points to an eczematous condition of the system, and any discharge from the eye may, though it does not necessarily, indicate distemper. Next open the puppy's mouth, and see that the tongue, cheeks and throat are healthy and clean, with no sign of growths or swellings. The state of the teeth will, of course, depend on his age (as a rule you will not find full and well-rounded gums and a neat outline in which the teeth meet when the mouth is closed earlier than the age of nine months), but you can judge of a level mouth and see that the dog is neither under- nor overshot.

Lastly, give a look to his condition as a whole, and study the family history. The skin should be loose, so that you can take it up in the hand. A slightly stained coat may be due to much account, as very likely will be due to worms, those inevitable pests of puppyhood, but the well-conditioned dog will be covered with firm flesh, and the hair will be glossy and fairly thick.

There are several points of minor importance which I have not raised, but I think it may reasonably be said that a puppy passes a scrutiny on the lines suggested and if he seems of an amiable disposition, he should be a safe buy. Should there be doubt on any point, reject him, for the delicate or malformed gun-dog, especially if he indicates any lack of physical, will be a source of constant anxiety, however brilliant his mental attributes.

Suppose you decide upon a dog already trained. There are (or were) many excellent kennels which can be relied on to send out reasonably well-trained dogs, just as there are plenty of keepers who will not "sell you a pup" in more senses than one. At the same time there are several good reasons why a thorough preliminary trial of a dog makes the transaction

GUN-DOGS

more satisfactory in the long run to both parties concerned.

Most gun-dogs are temperamental, and some may have peculiarities which will not come to light on first acquaintance. For example, a dog may be at first sight a perfect performer in the field and yet may possess one of those jealous temperaments which precludes working him in company; and you may find when you get him alongside his own kind in the field that he will sit up and do nothing. He may have one of those very bad-tempered natures (which are often found in setters), which prevents him from giving of his best until he has thoroughly settled down under the new régime. If this be so, he will probably hesitate and fumble his game at first, but it is obviously unfair to judge on one performance. *

A dog sent on approval may have had a long train journey, during which he has been kept short of food, hustled about in the guard's van and pushed into sidings for hours. He arrives at his journey's end half scared and worn out, to be met by a total stranger and hustled with scant ceremony into a strange kennel. If you take that dog out for a trial next day you should not expect him to live up to his reputation. The most perfectly trained dog in the world would not do so, so it is fair neither to the animal nor to his previous owner to judge him on a performance when the state of his nerves, and probably his stomach also, fit him more for a quiet day than active work outside.

Again, no two men work a dog alike, and at first the dog, missing the voice and handling of his old master, cannot be expected to work to capacity. Therefore in one or two casual outings you have neither time nor opportunity fully to appreciate his reaction to new ownership or to allow for any peculiarities he may have. He is a stranger in a strange land, and you must allow him reasonable time to familiarise himself to new surroundings and to find a method of handling before expecting a polished performance in the field. It is important to write him down as useless if he does not come up to your expectations at the first few times of asking.

At this time of year good working dogs can often be acquired from gamekeepers, and it is no bad plan to accompany a friendly keeper on an off-day and see a few youngsters tried out over moor or marsh. You can make acquaintance with various candidates for your situation, see how they work in the open, in cover, over water, and decide which is best suited to your own line of country.

After a few trials there remains only the question of cost, which, relatively speaking, is the least important part of the business, since a good dog is worth, in reason, any price set on him. The value of your investment lies not only in his game finding abilities, but in the affection and companionship he will give you all his working years. Every time his wisdom in the field puts your own judgment at fault, or outpoints your neighbour's budding champion—why, there is the interest on your money at a hundred per cent.

AFTER CARNOUSTIE

WHEN I got to Carnoustie I determined to keep a diary of the Championship, writing a little bit every evening. Thus I could write of any particular match when it was fresh in my mind; that was my professedly virtuous reason, but there was perhaps another and lazier one, namely that I should have less to do at the end. Whatever my precise motives I was so sleepy and tired at the end of the first day that I did not keep my good—or bad—resolutions and let things slide. But now I find myself sitting down to write on the Friday night before the Saturday's final. After all, I say to myself, the championship is really over. One of two very fine American golfers will win it and we are going to enjoy an admirable exhibition of golf. We have much enjoyed our invaders' pleasant company, and we do not grudge them an entirely well-earned success; but as far as we are concerned there is no more championship and we can look back on it as already a part of golfing history.

We have been well and truly beaten. The Walker Cup prepared us for the blow, but Carnoustie has rubbed it in with a vengeance. The mathematics of the final, rather than the mathematics of the game, rather than the game, made it clear that there could not be more than two Americans in the last four; otherwise there might easily have been four of them in the semi-final. Not till Robin Rutherford most gallantly defeated Ringel in the last sixteen had any one of the eight American Walker Cup players been beaten by anybody save one of his own comrades. As a friend said to me to-night: "There is no doubt about it, they have got something we have not got." There is no doubt about it, and I discard all—to my mind—nonsensical theories that the something is that they have more beef-steaks to eat than we have. "Let us in a spirit of love enquire," as Mr. Chabaud would remark, what that something is.

I think that the modern American amateur plays more golf than our men do, and plays it, if I may say so in the most innocent possible sense, in a more professional spirit. He can give more time to the game, practice more; some of them, such as Stranahan, have a capacity for

practice which I should have deemed incredible—and play in more competitions. I am not saying that we ought to emulate them; I say it simply as what I believe to be a fact.

As to the particular respect in which they beat us, it seems to me to be beyond question in the play round the hole. They have the art of hitting down three shots into two to perfection. They are quite beautiful chippers from round about the green and appear to play the stroke in a uniform way and nearly always with the same sort of club, which is very lofted one. The boldness with which they play this stroke and the amount of stop or bite which they impart to it fills me with a constant wonder, and if there is a better chipper in the world than Turnesa I have never seen him. Their power of laying the ball dead or nearly dead is not confined to grass. They are astonishingly skilful with their blasters from any bunker in the neighbourhood of the green; they are always playing for the pin out of bunkers, and they constantly get near it.

I think I said after the Walker Cup that I could not point to any particular feature of their putting which made that ball jump into the hole. Now that I have watched them for another week I can say rather more about their method, even though I cannot discover its secret. They nearly all stand with their feet close together and have an almost square stance, the right foot perhaps an inch or two forward. They all take the club quite a short way back (there is none of that taking the club well away from the ball which was once preached) and seem to give the ball a decidedly sharp tap with the club-head going well through. The ball seems to leap away as if it were going to race past the hole and then to pull up uncommonly near it. A tap with a follow through—that is the best way I can describe it, and if this recipe is of any comfort to anyone he is welcome to practise it on his carpet.

There is another respect—a moral rather than a physical one—in which they are wholly admirable. They are splendid finishers. In the Walker Cup they showed, as I have said before,

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

a wonderful collective power of spurring, and at Carnoustie they exhibited individually the capacity for getting the last ounce of effort out of themselves at the crucial moment. There were various matches in which our hopes rose high only to be dashed. An American giant was being held with three or four holes to go, and it seemed as if anything might happen; but alas! nearly every time—not quite, for I remember Rutherford—the same thing did happen; the Briton faded a little and the American did the holes in the right figures and won the match.

One example is fresh in my mind. Chapman and McKinlay were having a regular "dog-fight" of rather indifferent golf, and Chapman had done his best to throw the match away. When they came all square to the 17th Chapman first holed out from fifteen feet, with his enemy lying only five feet away, and then at the 18th, when his caddy begged him to play short, he waved such prudent advice aside and slashed his ball right home with a wooden club. If he had gone into the burn, everybody would have said he had been foolish; but then he didn't go into the burn.

At that point I stopped and went to bed, and now add a short postscript as to the final. Alas that I have left so little room for so truly historic a match! It was impossible to be even in the smallest degree disappointed at there being no Briton in the final, when our invaders gave so magnificent an exposition of golf, perfect alike in matter and manner. As to Turnesa's pitching and putting, it was as that of one possessed. Hubert in *Invader* said that he did not yield to his adversary, Locksley, but to the devil that was in his jinkin. Chapman might have said the same. His own pitching and putting were up to a standard that is beyond us in this country, but they were not quite good enough for Turnesa. The winner had one great stroke of luck: when he was five down in the morning going to the tenth hole his ball jumped the burn, and he won the hole in four and started a run of victories. Luckily it was, but a man must first have some luck to win a championship, and then he must be able to use it. How tremendously Turnesa used his!

CORRESPONDENCE

AN OXFORD PROJECT

SIR.—Apropos of the article in your issue of May 30 about the proposed extensions of Magdalen College, Oxford, I would like to add that, in view of the greatest difficulty suggested by the removal of the proposed curtain walls there should be wrought-iron screens between the admirable new buildings designed by Mr. Oliver Hill and the Nicholas stone archway? For would not screens of wrought iron be kinder to the scale of the beautiful archway than walls of stone?—AMATEUR, Hampstead, N.W.3.

TRANSPLANTING OF SNAKES-HEADS

From Lord Hazelrigg.

SIR.—With reference to Mr. J. D. U. Ward's letter in your issue of May 30 about transplanting snakes-heads, we were fortunate enough to get some bulbs of this plant a few years ago and planted them in two rather damp pieces of ground. I cannot say that they have increased very much, but they have certainly held their own, and every now and again one or two plants appear 30 or 40 yards away from the original.

The soil here is strong clay, so I think that if they do here they would do anywhere.—HAZELRIGG, Naseby Hall, Billesdon, Leicestershire.

THE PARAGON, BLACKHEATH

SIR.—The following copy of a water-colour executed by the writer in 1933 shows The Paragon, Blackheath, before enemy action in 1940, and again in 1944, destroyed the block

half-hidden by the tree on the left of the picture, and the end block beyond it.

The fine piece of Georgian architecture, in the form of a crescent, is, I think it would be undisputed, second to none of a like character to be found in Bath, Buxton, Cheltenham, etc., and it is sad now to recall the severe mutilation alluded to above. However, it is gratifying to know that the whole of the work of the capable bands of an architect fully qualified to handle the task, who is rebuilding the destroyed blocks and generally rein-

stating throughout. I am informed it is intended to convert the group into residential flats of a high standard.

KNOLE, W. S.E. 40, *Hardy Road, Blackheath*.

ADMISSION TO KNOLE

SIR.—I recently took some friends to see over Knole, Kent, encouraged by your recent article, in which the days and times of opening by the National Trust were stated. If I recall in some detail our disappointment on entrance, which I understand has happened to others, it is in no spirit of

carping but in order to warn other prospective visitors and, it may be hoped, persuade the National Trust to improve the arrangements for admitting the public.

Knole is advertised as being open from 2 p.m. till 5 p.m., which I think conveys the impression that although no one would be admitted after five people who had arrived sometime previously would be admitted up till near that hour. The journey to Sevenoaks must take nearly an hour from London, and then there is a walk of nearly a mile up to the mansion itself. Few Londoners work there and expect to get to the door before 3.15 at the earliest on Saturday afternoon, if they had lunch in London after working till 1 o'clock, and many would hardly get there much before 4 p.m.

We motored from here—nearly 50 miles away—so that we were introduced into one's petrol ration, and it was 4 p.m. by the time we had parked the car and joined a queue about 50 yards long. Many of those ahead of us must have been waiting a very long time. Soon after our arrival some people were admitted and an official told us that the next people would be admitted at about twenty past or half past four, and that it was not worth while for the rest of us to wait. We did wait, of course, hoping: but, sure enough, soon after 4.30 all but the first 25 were told to go away. There must have been four or five hundred head of us and nearer 50 behind us. I admit we had arrived late, but many of the 20 ahead of us may have been waiting since soon after 8 o'clock till the queue



THE PARAGON, BLACKHEATH, AS IT WAS BEFORE ENEMY ACTION DESTROYED TWO OF ITS BLOCKS

See letter: *The Paragon, Blackheath*



ST PAUL'S FROM THE THAMES

A PHOTOGRAPH FROM DE LA MOTTE'S THE SUNBEAM AN ALBUM PUBLISHED IN 1859

(Right) A VIEW TAKEN ABOUT 1853 (Below) IN 1939

See letter. The Eclipse of St Paul's

had already reached a good distance by the time they arrived.

There seems to be a great interest nowadays in seeing houses and works of art thrown open to the public and quite apart from the disappointment caused about 75 half crowns turned away from the door could surely have been collected to provide extra staff. I do not believe that the place is as accessible as Sevenoaks; this would be very difficult to provide and there must be many intellectual young men and women in London students and the like who would not find it difficult to master the history and would welcome the opportunity to exchange for their expenses a moderate fee.

We gathered that 25 were admitted at a time and that the tour lasts 45 minutes. I don't know whether this means that only four parties in all are admitted between 2 p.m. and 4.20 or whether more than one party is admitted at a time. The rate of progress in the queue was hardly perceptible. I am sure the National Trust are anxious to do all they can and there may be considerable difficulties in their way but I do feel that if further facilities are impossible to provide the public should be told that only a limited number can be admitted—or that one will be admitted after 4.30 p.m.—BARBARA BIRLEY DOLLY uses: *Gasfield, Sussex*

[An official of the National Trust informs us that the only times at which visitors have had to be turned away from Knole are on the days after noon when up to date party visitors have unfortunately wished to see the State Rooms than it has been possible to admit. Whereas the closing hour is stated to be 5 p.m. in no instance has the last party left before 8 p.m. and rarely not before 8 p.m. since it seems taken less than half an hour to conduct each party round. This means that it is past 7 before the gates have closed the State Rooms and finished work. It is explained that the geography of the State Rooms which present a series of boudoirs and pavilions which are not physically possible to admit more than four parties of 25 people at a time so that to increase the number of guides would unfortunately not solve the difficulty.—Ed.]

STILE OR GATE?

Sir.—The photograph of a drawbridge illustrating the article *New Life for Our Canals* in a recent number of COUNTRY LIFE reminded me of what was described to me as a lifting stile near Penshurst.

When I reached the site of this stile I was confronted with the object shown in my first photograph.

After a hasty examination I found that what I lifted was the construction folded into the position shown in the other photograph.

Is this a stile or a gate or neither or both? And are there any other



examples of a similar barrier anywhere else?—J. BOUTHEY Sevenoaks Kent

THE ECLIPSE OF ST PAUL'S

Sir.—A book in the Victoria and Albert Museum, *The Sunbeam* by De la Motte (1859) contains 20 photographs mostly architectural and among them the view of St Paul's shown in the first of the accompanying photographs. There were then no high buildings on the Victoria Embankment opposite and the roof of St. Benet's Church is now invisible. But the government building of 1880 was as now a skyscraper and the modern Faraday House as is clear from the third photograph only aggravates what was an eyesore before and now blots out all but the tops of St. Paul's and the cathedral.

Left accomplishes the recent agitation about the Bankside Power Station however much one may agree with it is surely as regards the cathedral rather a case of trying to shut the stable door too late.

The photograph in front of St

Paul's in the photograph of 1859 must belong to the garden of Doctors Commons the buildings of which although derelict (having been abandoned two years earlier) were not

the same in front of St

demolished until 1867 when Queen Victoria Street was made across their site. These trees which were elms of mature age for long harboured a rookery (London Topographical Record XV, page 77).

Also worthy of note are the attractive premises immediately before St. Benet's Church especially the circular top to a warehouse housethe Venetian wind w's close by and the series of points that give one a guess whether they are gables or conical roofs.—*EDWARD CORB* Streatham SW16

THE WANDERINGS OF MEDIEVAL GLASS

Sir.—Mr David Rutter's remarks in COUNTRY LIFE of May 23 about the Jesse window at York Minster impel me to state the facts of the case. William Peckitt, the York glazier brought glass from the Queen and Fellows of New College Oxford. He brought them to York and set them in the space which ever since they have filled, making coloured borders because the window spaces were too broad for the glass as it was. The glass was set in the surviving panels of the Jesse tree removed from the chapel of Winchester College about 125 years ago were made at Oxford. The panels that Peckitt brought to York could never have been made here; they are not of York glass and the colour could never have added a parish church in York for there is not a window space that they could have filled. Finally they fit exactly the window spaces in the ante-chapel of New College from which they were removed.—F. HARRISON (Chancellor of York Minster) The Chancery 9 Minster Court York

A ROBIN SQUATTER

Sir.—Major Jarvis's recent reference to a pair of robins that commanded his potato-shed for a nesting site recalls an equally determined robin squatter which some years ago although living in a large and very secluded garden decided that the only safe place in which an enthusiastic amateur car poster spent most of his day was the only place to bring up a family.

Her potential host was very kind but firm; the first basket of dead leaves deposited on the shelf was promptly removed to prevent disappearance later, a hundred interval and by the late afternoon a considerable pile of leaves had been accumulated. These were again thrown out but before night a fresh start had been made and the foundations of a nest well and truly laid.

To save further argument, the shelf was cleared again and a piece of wire netting with a fairly fine mesh was nailed across the shelf, on the assumption that the robin would consider a wire cage (possibly a trap) a most unsafe and unsuitable place to

A FOLDING BARRIER IN A LANE NEAR PENSHURST, KENT
See letter. Stile or Gate?

re a family. On the contrary, hardly had the shed been opened the next day when the builder arrived with a beakful of leaves, and from then onward building operations went forward with feverish haste for the rest of the day, the slight drawback of the bird having to pull down all of the leaves through most of the night, being apparently not worthy of notice.

My friend then gave up the contest; the nest was finished, the eggs were laid and the robin proceeded to sit. No talking or the usual noise of carpentering seemed to have any effect on her nerves, she sat tranquil and unbending through the most irritating noise of hammering that nearly took the roof off. However, like most of us, she had a vulnerable spot. The noise of sawing drove her into a frenzy. No sooner did a plane appear and sawing begin than, like a flash, she was off her nest, flying with a roar imploring the fact, indeed, that the tumult must cease. On one occasion she even tried to sit on the moving saw while she made her hysterical expostulations.

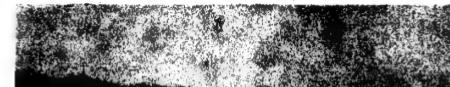
So a gentleman's agreement was reached, and until the family had flown all sawing operations were either suspended or done in a most haphazard manner. The departure of the family and the methods by which they were conducted through the netting were never known. The whole operation was carried out in complete secrecy and with no indication it was about to take place.—M. M. OYLER, 37, Ebury Street, S.W.1.

THE ORIGINAL STARS AND STRIPES

Sir,—I was extremely interested in Mr. G. H. Viner's letter in your issue of May 23 on the origin of the Stars and Stripes.

On a recent visit to the United States I was taken by American friends to a service on Easter Sunday at the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge, and noticed various versions of the Stars and Stripes hanging there.

One had the thirteen horizontal stripes of alternate red and white with what appeared to me to be a Union Jack in the corner. I asked my host what this flag represented, and he told me that it was the original American



PURE-BRED EXMOOR PONIES OF THE FAMOUS ZEAL HERD

See letter: The Exmoor Pony

flag and that there had been several versions since, culminating in the present one.—F. R. M. DE PAUL, 8, Palace Gate, W.8.

SIR WISBECH BENEFACTOR

Sir.—In Wisbech Church, the fine tower of which was illustrated in your issue of May 23, there is a wall monument to Thomas Parke, the benefactor, who died in 1631 at the age of 87. As one of the inscriptions records, it was erected to his memory by his son-in-law, Sir Miles Sandy, and Dame Elizabeth, his wife, who appear kneeling in the little niche below the prayer desk.

This charming monument is one of a largish group, a feature of which is a kneeling daughter placed in a niche and on a much smaller scale than the principal figures. The scheme is found in places so remote from each other as Stamford, Lincolnshire, and Bouthby, Lincoln. Known as a fact which, at that date, virtually proved a common origin in a London yard.

This example differs from the majority of monuments in having the emblems of mortality placed above those of the principal effigies, the shrouded skeleton being fitted into the framework of the canopy above the structure (one cancestral it pediment), ending in a fine coat-of-arms flanked on a lower level by a pair of hour-glasses. The columns framing the whole design are completed with acanthus and topped with Laureate shields, and a charming cherub head fills the spandrel between the arches, surmounting the kneeling figures of Parke and his beloved wife. The daughter, in her long mourning veil, is placed under the desk at which her parents kneel, which encloses her as in a shrine. The well-designed base is prettily decorated with acanthus, overlaid with foliated scrollwork, on the brackets of the columns, with ovals as well. The condition of the whole is superb.

The work seems to belong to the studio, or rather yard, of the famous contemporary phrase of Gerald Christians (died 1634), in whose work and apprentices, John and Matthias (died 1664), many of these features are recognisably. The employment of Esther and sons on the elaborate Lord Mayors' payments of the day gave

them a special facility in designing angels, and the shrouded figure motif, sometimes replaced by an elaborate canopy, as on Archibald the Abbot's tomb, is evidently a singularly persistent and sometimes, as there, combined with the normal effigy; the fine quality of the alabaster, too, points in the same direction.

We may, I think, safely see in this charming work a new example of the Cheshire skill, and hope a further pageant detail in the shape of the flower and fruit that flank the base



WOODEN CARVINGS THAT REPRESENT JACK-IN-THE-GREEN IN A SHROPSHIRE CHURCH

See letter: Jack-in-the-Green Grotesques

of the shield. Such symbolism was common enough, but the method of handling it is individual and unusual, and such as one might expect from the school of Anne Drury, scattering flowers on the documents in the tomb of Donne's pupil, Anne Drury, at Hawstead, Suffolk.—KATHARINE A. ESDAILE, *Leaves End, West Houghton, Sussex.*

THE EXMOOR PONY

Sir.—Apropos of Lady Wentworth's article, *Our Mixed Impression*, *Pony* (May 6), I am sure that the Exmoor pony was Chesterton who said, "only the secure are humble." The Exmoor pony needs no defence. He remains what he is and what he always has been, unruffled by anything.

Lady Wentworth likes to call him "a bit of a joker," but I am not quite humble enough, however, (if I am the Exmoor enthusiast of her first paragraph) to accept that odd string of adjectives ("pure aboriginal wild Native English") as mine.

It is nice to see my photograph of my mare Foxglove, though it is not quite clear whether she has been chosen to represent the "arrant jades" or the "Acland types."

Lady Wentworth says Katsuriko was a cream stallion of striking appearance. He must have blanched after his

prodigious leap. Nimrod, writing in 1624, described him as dark bay and gave his breeding.

The Exmoor pony is a native of Britain, not a foreign import. We can rightly be proud of this breed which has survived since prehistoric times. Why crat?—M. DERRINGTON (Miss), *Seaford, Chittisham, Norfolk, Umberleigh, North Devon.*

JACK-IN-THE-GREEN GROTESQUES

Sir.—I was much interested in the photograph of a carving in a Monmouthshire church (May 23) of Jack-in-the-Green, or the Green Man. Such grotesques are to be found all over the country; I know of at least 100 in places as far apart as Norwich, Bristol, the Marches and Wales, as well as others in France and Italy.

They are probably of pagan origin. Dr. C. B. Lewis, the folk-artist, writes: "It would be a mistake to think that because Christianity finally triumphed in the long struggle with its pagan rivals, the latter were wiped out; many of them were officially recognized." Unofficially, pagan custom existed side by side with the Christian religion, as can be seen in other ecclesiastical details.

I enclose drawings of two examples from the church of East-under-Haywood, Shropshire. They are the most interesting of a series of wooden bosses in the chancel, being carved with grotesque heads, associated with oak leaves, or with foliage alone. The larger head has the typical arrangement of leaves issuing from the crown and front of the head, and may be oak apples being worn at the mouth; the other shows a mask-like face surrounded by conventional leaves.—LILLIAN HAYWARD, *Tickleton, Church Street, Shropshire.*

ANOTHER JOHN WILKES

Sir.—With reference to the china figure said to be that of John Wilkes, a noted Birmingham local historian, in your issue of May 16, the dates given below the photograph are those of the birth and death of John Wilkes the journalist and politician whose fight for the liberty of the subject created such a stir in the middle of the 18th century.

Portrait busts in favour of the latter John Wilkes ran very high and it is well known that pictures and figures of him were widely made at the time. It seems far more likely that the figure you illustrated is one of those rather than a representation of a locksmith who was a noted Birmingham craftsman, and would have had only a comparatively limited reputation. In any case, John Wilkes the locksmith was an earlier character, since there is a record of work done by him at Chatsworth in 1694.

I enclose a photograph of an interesting bust of John Wilkes the politician which I recently acquired. It is a brass trivet, the top of which is fretted with the inscription "Wilkes (Continued on page 1123)

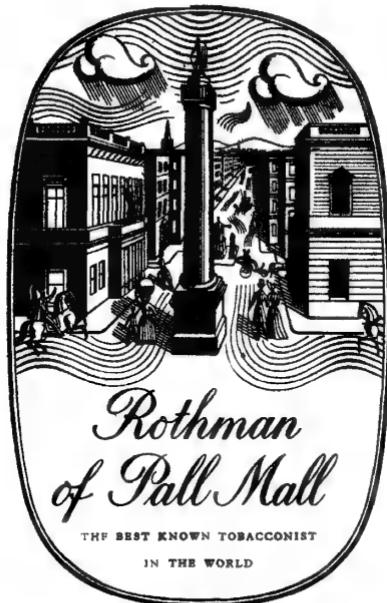


A TRIVET COMMEMORATING JOHN WILKES, FAMOUS 18TH-CENTURY JOURNALIST AND POLITICIAN

See letter: Another John Wilkes

MONUMENT TO THOMAS PARKE (DIED 1631) IN WISBECH CHURCH, PROBABLY FROM THE WORKSHOP OF GERALD CHRISTMAS

See letter: A Wisbech Benefactor



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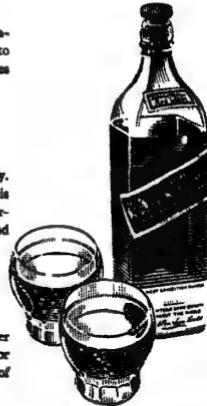
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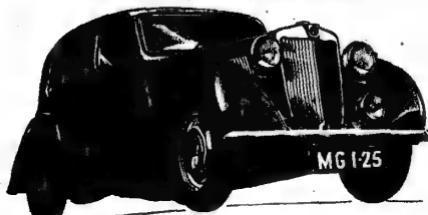
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and Liberty 45," the figures "45" being an allusion to No. 45 of Wilkes's paper, *The North Briton*, the publication of which gave rise to his troubles with the Government of the day, with the result that "45" came to be adopted as the popular symbol of liberty—C. E. SHELLEY, Woodland, West Clandon, Surrey.

JEROME K. JEROME AS JOURNALIST

SIR.—Major Jarvis is hardly fair (in COUNTRY LIFE of May 23) to the journalistic prowess of Jerome K. Jerome, who was more than "a columnist in a now long defunct paper, *The Daily Mail*." He was, in 1892, with Robert Barr and G. B. Burns, and editor of an excellent and intelligently produced monthly magazine of that name, to which most of the best of the younger authors of the time contributed. In the following year he started and edited an interesting weekly paper, *The Day*, which was equally successful.—JAMES THORPE, Dean Prior, Buxton, Derbyshire, Devon.

RUSKIN'S LONDON HOME

SIR.—The old house on Denmark Hill, S.E. which was John Ruskin's home for 40 years, with his father and mother lived until their death, is about to be demolished, and I have a photograph to mark the melancholy



AWAITING DEMOLITION: THE HOUSE IN SOUTH-EAST LONDON WHERE RUSKIN LIVED

See letter: Ruskin's London Home

event. It was here the family removed from Herne Hill, to seven acres of garden and paddocks, glasshouses and stables, fowl-houses and piggeries, when "the pigs spoke excellent Irish."

Sometham described it as "a large house with a lodge . . . and grand rooms glittering with pictures, chiefly Turners." He goes on to speak of

John "unhanging a Turner from the wall of a distant room; he brought it to the table and put it in my hands; then we talked . . . And so he kept on gilding all over the house, hanging and unhanging and stopping a few minutes to talk."

Although in later years a private hotel, the house and its surroundings were but little changed from Ruskin's

NEW BOOKS

ARCHITECTURE BETWEEN THE WARS

IT may be several years yet before there is any post-war architecture apart from post-war housing. Yet in anticipation of the time when the art of building will have moved into other and more varied needs, it is well to take stock of the position as it was in 1940 when the curtain fell. That the intelligent layman is now able to do thanks to the initiative of the Architecture Club, its section and publications, a series of monographs of the best buildings erected in this country between the wars.—Recent English Architecture, 1920-1940 (COUNTRY LIFE, 7s. 6d.).

The choosing has been well done with the balance held even between what was called "modern" or "horrible dictu," "modernistic," and what was branded "traditional." It would be a great advantage if in the years ahead architects can cease to be "ists" and drop their "isms" and just be architects. Looking through this picture book, one is not conscious that Sir Edwin Lutyens's Middleton Park is in its own category any less representative of its time than the Royal Grove Underground Station, perhaps the best of many admirable buildings which Messrs. Adams, Holden and Pearson have given to London travellers. In spite of all the talk about functionalism it is the relations and proportions and harmonies that count, not the question of whether the idiom. The speech of some of these buildings may be enriched with mediæval and classical allusions, just as others have the effect of an Englishman using foreign words picked up on a Continental tour, while others again are in the language of the day, in a scientific statement. The second class is the one that dates most easily, as the headquarters of the Royal Institute of Architects and the City Hall, Norwich, already do in spite of some admirable qualities.

The buildings are conveniently grouped in categories—public buildings, social services, commercial and industrial, educational, and domestic. This section is inadequate; perhaps none notable enough was built. For the dramatic we must turn to some of the churches shown, or else to the Battersea Power Station or the Mersey Tunnel ventilator towers.

A. S. O.

A PROSPECTOR'S DIARIES

A NOTABLE addition to the Oppenheimer series of books published by Chatto and Windus on the exploration of Africa is *The Rhodesian Goldfields Diaries of Thomas Baines*, edited by J. P. R. Wallis (3 vols., £4 10s.). Baines made two journeys prospecting for gold in Matabeleland (later Southern Rhodesia) between 1889 and 1872, and the account of them given in these

as chronicles of an important period in the development of Southern Africa and as a revelation of a man to whom, as his epitaph put it, "the wilderness brought gladness and the mountains peace," they are eminently readable.

T. J.

WONDERS OF THE PLANT WORLD

PATRICK M. SYNGE's *Plants with Personality* (Lindsay Drummond, 18s.), is a gardening book that is out



METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD LABORATORIES, LONDON.
From Recent English Architecture, 1920-1940 (COUNTRY LIFE)

diaries is a fascinating story of steadfastness and quiet resolution in the face of considerable drawbacks. inadequately supported by the company that employed him, he took to paying for his expeditions by the paintings he did on site, several of which together with his drawings and descriptions of scenes or objects that took his fancy, are reproduced in these volumes. Painting, however, was but one of the accomplishments of this remarkable man. Explorer, naturalist, cartographer, and, when need be, doctor and, he possessed a wide-ranging curiosity and a gift for simple and sincere description that not a few later travellers might envy. His diaries may not be a classic of exploration, but

of the ordinary, Mr. Syngle writes with infectious enthusiasm on what might be termed the wonders of the plant world, on nelumbo, the giant sacred lotus of the East, on insectivorous plants, on the giant lobelias and gesnerias of the equatorial mountains of East Africa, and on the extraordinary pumas of Chile. He writes with unquestioned authority, for he has studied most of these plants in their native habitats on expeditions before the war. Few know gardeners will read the book without being inspired with the ambition to grow some of them, though they may be John Nash's drawings and the plates from Dr. Thornton's *Temple of Flora* add to the attractions of the volume.

days. With its lovely sweep of trees, and open meadowland, it was a place of rare charm and beauty which we can ill afford to lose.—ALLAN JOBBIN, 21, Cromwell Close, S.E.19.

JOHN EVELYN AND THE OX

SIR.—The article *Old Cattle Prints*, in your issue of April 18, reminded me of an entry in John Evelyn's diary for April 29, 1646, which runs as follows:

I saw an ox in a large ox
bred in Kent, 17 feet in length,
and much higher than I could
reach.

It is a pity we don't know John Evelyn's height, but the ox must have been a monster.—J. W. RAINIER (Captain, R.N.), Little Bayfield, Westerham, Kent.

SWEDISH TIMBER HOUSES

SIR.—I should be most grateful if any of your readers could tell me of any experience they may have of the timber houses of Swedish origin, a number of which have been erected at various places recently.

Are they obtainable? What is the cost and what are their main disadvantages, if any?—H. A. SHORTER, 4, Vitegarde Down, East Sheen, S.W.14.

R. C. McMillan's *Planting for Plenty* (Faber, 8s. 6d.) is of a totally different character. It is a severely practical calendar of gardening hints, confined to vegetables and fruit, and finely illustrated.

D. T. MACF.

RURAL RHYMES

THE PRACTICALISM of English village life was well brought out in *I Went to Nook: An Anthology of Rustic Rhymes*, compiled by J. E. Lloyd and embellished with delightfully appropriate drawings by Sancho Panza (Allen & Unwin, 3s. 6d.). Pride in one's own village or country is a natural trait for those of others is a vice or, if you will, a virtue of country folk, and the majority of these topographical rhymes are correspondingly partial. They range, in fact, from the unashamed self-praise of Cornwall's

*Chacewater bubbles up a tree,
Lively as whisker'd dog could be,*

*Truro men, strong as oak,
Knock 'em down at every stroke,*

through the gentle comparison of

*Bloxham for length,
Adderbury for strength,
Bul King Sutton for beauty,*

(from the Oxfordshire-Northamptonshire border in relation to the church spires of the villages named) to the stark censure of

*Ugly church,
Ugly steeples,
Ugly parson,
Ugly brough,*

a rhyme attributed to Essex, which for sheer concentrated hate must be difficult to beat.

J. K. A.

NATURE AND ART

LIGHT, colour and atmosphere are three of the outstanding characteristics of Mr. Edward Seago's painting, and they occupy a prominent place in his *A Canoe to Coser* (Collins, 18s.). A piquantly discursive account of the possibilities of painting the beauties of Nature not merely to painters but to any lover of beauty. The book, which is illustrated with reproductions of nearly 70 of the author's paintings, four of which are in colour, avowedly a recounting of personal experiences and a description of the painter's preoccupation, but in telling the beauties he has found in earth and sky and the changing pattern of the seasons Mr. Seago bids fair to open the eyes of others to the beauty that lies around them.

C. D.

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NEW BOOKS

ARMY INDECISIONS OF 1939

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

THE citizen who knows at first hand nothing of what goes on in the great offices of state, but comfortably takes it for granted that his interests are being looked after there and that those in authority know what they are about: such a citizen will perhaps revise his opinion on reading some passages in *Playing With Strife*, by Lieut.-Gen. Sir Philip Neame (Harrap, 15s.).

The passages are those dealing with the months before war began in 1939. Sir Philip Neame was Commandant of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. In 1938 he had already been asking to know what he was to do if war broke out, but it was not until February of 1939 that he was told that Sir John Dill would com-

mand the British Expeditionary Force in France, and that he himself would be Chief of the General Staff.

Since the job was now defined, the next thing obviously was to learn all that could be learned about it. "I immediately asked the General Staff at the War Office if I could study the plans for the move and employment of the B.E.F., but the D.C.I.G.S. informed me that there was nothing to tell me. During the next seven months before war broke out I asked on two other occasions, but was told nothing, or that plans were not sufficiently advanced. I knew at this time who were to be Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General, and they were in the same condition of ignorance."

By July of 1939 "Dill had been over to France and had some conversations with the French Generalissimo, Gamelin, but I was still in ignorance of the War Office plans."

LAST MINUTE CHANGES

Our ultimatum to Germany expired on September 3, and "it was not until that very week that I had any access to the plans for the B.E.F. Previously neither I, nor the A.G., nor the Q.M.G., designate, had ever seen them. I went up to the War Office on the last Monday in August and demanded to know what was to happen and then spent the next six days reading through the plans and movement tables."

On September 4—the day after the ultimatum expired—when the B.E.F. had begun to move, "I was informed of a complete change of command of both the B.E.F. and the War Office higher staff. In the B.E.F., Dill was not to be Commander-in-Chief. I was not to be C.G.S., and the A.G. was also changed." When the author writes "imagine my own surprise, and still more my consternation," the

reader is well able to share those emotions with him.

Sir Philip, who knew little of War Office doings, for he had been serving in India for many years up to 1938, was unhappy about our own Army and the French. As for us, when the war began, "except for the fact that all front-line transport was mechanised, we had in 1914 army to fight a German 1939 army." As for the French, "ever since the days of Napoleon, and largely on the strength of his name," they "had had the reputation of being a great military nation, but they have nearly always been wrong in their military ideas." Between 1914 and 1939 they had spent millions on their navy, though they must have known that they could rely only on ours. "If they had

PLAYING WITH STRIFE. By Lieut.-Gen. Sir Philip Neame (Harrap, 15s.)

MY ONE CONTRIBUTION TO CHESS. By F. V. Morley (Faber, 7s. 6d.)

CARRY ME BACK. By Rebecca Yancey Williams (Michael Joseph, 10s. 6d.)

RURAL REFLECTIONS. By Monica M. Hutchings (Hodder and Stoughton, 8s. 6d.)

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spent one quarter of this money, honestly, on their Air Force they could have met and defeated the German air fleets."

From France, Sir Philip soon moved East, and eventually was captured by German forces in Cyrenaica. He was imprisoned at Vincigliata Castle until the Italian surrender, and gives a good account of life there and of the vicissitudes through which he passed after he got away. However, the account written by the Australian Brigadier Hargest will remain, I think, the classic both of Vincigliata and of escape.

This is not a story only of the war just ended. It is an account of the author's life, of much travel, much fighting, much riding and game-shooting. There are admirable descriptions of life on the North-West Frontier of India, and a most interesting account of the secular and religious life of Tibet which the author observed during his official mission. Like no new calendar book, *The Pilgrim's Progress and Mein Kampf*, to name two—this one owes its being to enforced imprisonment. It was written during four months at Vincigliata.

"A PECCULIAR TREATISE"

As one who does not play chess, I can testify that an ignorance of the game does not diminish enjoyment of Mr. F. V. Morley's book, *My One Contribution to Chess* (Faber, 7s. 6d.). Chess has been important to Mr. Morley's family. His father, a poor boy living at Woodbridge in Suffolk in the latter part of the last century, had for neighbour the retired Astronomer Royal, Sir G. B. Airy, and this strangely assorted pair came together in a mutual passion for chess and mathematics. Airy pushed the boy into Cambridge, and eventually Morley became head of the Depart-

ment of Mathematics at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. In America his three sons—one the author of this present book—were born; and all three became Rhodes scholars, retracing their father's footsteps and coming back to study in Oxford. Although what old Airy states was he began to play chess with young Morley was a most fruitful Anglo-American give-and-take.

For the comfort of those who play chess, let me say that there is a lot about chess in the book. I have read it all and enjoyed every word of it, just as I read and enjoy Neville Cardus on cricket, even though I have never played the game. There are not many writers—Bernard Darwin on golf is another, though that is a game I have played with passion and unsuccess—who can make the non-player aware that he has missed a lot. What is necessary is the rosy flesh of poetry overlaying the scientific bones. All three of these writers get this, so that their words are greyhounds on a hill, while most sporting writers achieve nothing but a "dog-track" chase after a dummy.

For the comfort of the man who doesn't play chess, let it be added that Frank Morley's real intention is not to describe or amplify a game but to give us a picture of his father and mother, their forbears and the life of the young growing family in America. It is, also, to let his own philosophic mind play over this and that as the plough of his narrative turns it up to the light. If the ancient Egyptians and Confucius and many another strange companion thus is found for the patrons of "Simpson's Club Divan," that is only to be expected from this vagrant and allusive expedition. "I am increasingly convinced," says Mr. Morley, when half-way through, "that this is a very peculiar treatise on chess." Fortunately, it is.

CHILDHOOD IN VIRGINIA

Mrs. Rebecca Yancey Williams, who has already given us *Father Was a Handful*, gives us some more of father and mother, brothers and sisters, cousins, Negro servants and neighbours in *Carry Me Back* (Michael Joseph, 10s. 6d.). This is the story of a Virginian childhood throughout a year and a half, beginning in March, 1913, when the author was fourteen years old.

The town of Lynchburg, where her father was a lawyer, and the country house a dozen miles away to which the family went for the summer months, are the setting of a narrative full of the bright light that irradiates a fortunate childhood. You must not go to this book for the "big bow-wow" mood or method; but life running in the shallow glancing stream before it joins the river is excellently suggested.

A COUNTRY BOOK

I so much enjoyed Miss Monica M. Hutchings's *The Chronicles of Church Farm* that I was proportionately disappointed with *Rural Reflections* (Hodder and Stoughton, 8s. 6d.). The earlier book was about something; the present one is a hedge-podge on a low level. There are navel little stories of village life; there is a good deal of description of the Somerset scenes written in the worst "guide-book" language. "The next typical view of the moor comes from Dunster, a convenient centre for visitors, and easy of access from 'the outside world.'" Beat that, if you can, for a collection of clichés. Why the last one is "quoted," and the others not, I cannot say. A word that many

writers misuse is "respectively." Miss Hutchings misuses it in a frightful sentence: "Chard makes lace and collars, besides being the home of men who invented aeroplanes and artificial limbs respectively." What on earth is the word supposed to mean, used thus?

THE LIFE OF INSECTS

AN INSERT BOOK FOR THE POCKET (Oxford University Press, 10s. 6d.) is perhaps the best of the series of natural history books for the pocket by the late Edmund Sandars. Illustrated with over 30 pages of coloured photographs and numerous detailed drawings, it will with all the insects in the British Isles (which would have been out of the question in a work of its size), but with the larger ones in detail (those $\frac{1}{4}$ in. or more in length or having a wing-span of at least 1 in.), and with the main characteristics of certain orders of the smaller ones. A short introduction, which, like the text, is enlivened by a pleasing



CHILDREN IN SCULPTURE

Laus Deo, a garden figure, life size in bronze, by Lady Kennet (Kathleen Scott). From the Exhibition of Children in Sculpture by the Royal Society of British Sculptors, at the Galleries of the Royal Watercolour Society, 26, Conduit Street, W.I., June 2-20.

sense of humour, deals with the classification and anatomy of insects, but the main bulk of the text is on habits and life-history rather than on anatomy—on those aspects of the life of insects, that is, that are likely to interest the general reader rather than the specialist. One of the best features of the book is its lucidity: the accounts of the social life of ants, bees and wasps, and the various forms of a spider's web are in particular models of simple and light-handed exposition.

Your Holiday in Britain, by Gordon Cooper (Sampson Low, 12s. 6d.), which is illustrated by over 60 attractive photographs, is a book which has a form of great deal of information likely to be of use to anyone thinking of taking almost any type of holiday almost anywhere in Britain. J. K. A.



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A TRACTOR cutting hay in one field and next door men and boys finishing the planting of main crop potatoes is an unusual sight in fact it has not been seen before of this queer season. It is not only in the fens where the land was under water for six weeks that farmers have performed completed in June jobs that should be done in April. I stopped to have a word with the farmer who was with his tractor ploughing the land. He told me that his ground had been ■■■ to work and he was determined to get a reasonably good bed for his potatoes, but when he was ready to plant he still had not received the seed potatoes from Scotland. He was waiting for a delivery which he said farmers in the South find a safe yielder and popular with merchants, but in the end he took Gladstones, June planting of potatoes is, in my experience, too late to get full yields. I remember that, in 1942, when we were still in the plant, we had 100 acres I put in two extra acres in the first week of June. It was time and money wasted. The yield was no more than 6 tons from the two acres. I should have served myself and the farm better if I had put in kale for the winter, which would have been in full production by the time the conditions may, of course, favour late potatoes this season, and certainly we need some luck in this way. Only a quarter of the potato acreage in Angus had been planted by May 21 according to one merchant who has had to extend his delivery of seed potatoes from Scotland. The Angus farmers have been doing their best through April and May to catch up with potato sorting for the seed trade, but owing to the lack of school children to go planting they have been hopelessly short-handed for the two jobs.

"Enforced Gourmets"

I AM indebted to Professor A. W. Ashby and the *Westminster Bank Review* for the interesting piece of information that the averagely constituted population of Britain has risen from 43,600 tons in 1939, to 58,600 tons in 1946. This is probably the largest and most rapid change in our diet during the last century, but it is true enough that, while the increased demand will keep up with other foods in short, it is extremely doubtful whether the high level of consumption will continue with any improvement in general food supplies. Potatoes are a fill-up food and we eat more of them only because the more intense food is scarce. Since bread and meat rationing has curtailed the consumption of potatoes has gone up again and the first drop will probably be seen when bread comes off the ration, which surely should be after this harvest. The farmers whom Professor Ashby describes as "enforced gourmets" will not be unwilling to turn off production and the loss of their output may produce the necessary adjustment in supplies to meet a reduced demand.

Milk Yields

A YOUNG Farmers' Club quiz I heard two weeks ago placed the dairy breeds in order of milkage yields and butter-fat yields. Everyone put the Friesians first on gallongage and the Ayrshires second. Which breed comes next? According to the Milk Marketing Board, which keeps the official milk records, it is the Red Friesian with a 100 lb. yield per recorded herd, 7,390 lb. of milk against the Friesians' 5,868 lb., the Ayrshires' 2,880 lb. and the Shorthorns' 6,867 lb. The Guernseys and the Jerseys come next in gallongage

and they outshine all the rest in butter-fat percentages. The milk recording scheme will not be complete until we can get records of butter-fat and solid fat and that is really as gallongage records. The ones with the highest proportion (over 25 per cent) of recorded herds are Berkshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Suffolk, Surrey and Sussex.

Attested Herds

THERE are over 1,000,000 cattle in attested herds in Britain. This is 12.8 per cent. of all our cattle, which is not a very impressive record. Still, steady progress is being made. Scotland with 28.7 per cent. has forged ahead faster than England, where 15 top counties have 25.2 per cent. of their cattle attested. Surrey with 23.7 per cent. and Berkshire with 22.1 per cent. In Wales, Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire each with more than half their cattle attested show England up badly.

Summer Shows

IF the crowds that went to the Bath and West Show at Cheltenham are any guide to the probable attendance at the Royal Show at Lincoln next month, Mr. Alec Holson and the Council of the R.A.S.E. must be fearing a repetition at the price of a over-crowded showground with inadequate facilities for the entertainment of their guests. The sun and the crowds at Cheltenham, especially on the second day, soon ran the caterers dry of soft drinks and the most respectable milliner was seen running about the showground, lemonade bottle in hand, looking for a standpipe where they could quench their thirst. Catalogues ran out early and the great majority of the public could have gained little satisfaction from the exhibits, the animals being in a big crowd, which some people evidently enjoy. One farmer was heard to say, "I would as soon be at home threshing," and that is dusty, sweaty penury on a blazing summer day. Let me hasten to add that I do not blame the Bath and West Show for the comfort of their visitors. They had to manage as best they could with limited facilities for preparing the show, and they did a good job in this. Even the most optimistic show director could not have expected such crowds as poured into the showground.

Buttercups

HOW strange it is to penetrate 11 now-days into a buttercup country. Buttercups flourish in the old permanent pastures on the clays and the soils of some districts round Mallesbury in Wiltshire (or one) these old pastures look just as they were before the war. There may have been good reasons for not ploughing this land for wheat and re-sowing to grass leys, as most of us have done for many years, as well as the easier working soils. Buttercups are off by two seasons of ploughing and the new leys are mostly clear of them. The nursemaid of childhood days used to say that at this season the buttercups made the grass taste like your mother. But I suspect that the leaves lose the flowerheads alone and that the colouring factor, carotin as the scientists call it, is found in the young grass that grows alongside the buttercups. Sir George Stapledon is a convincing advocate of a small award containing the words "In remembrance of the grasses and clovers that we sow in a sly," but I have never heard any expert claim virtues for the buttercup. It is, I am afraid, just a useless weed in pasture.

CINCINNATI.

ESTATE MARKET

COAL BOARD BUYS COUNTRY HOUSES

THE National Coal Board has made an expenditure on property additional to that which has recently come to the knowledge of the public. Himley Hall and a large acreage, and other properties in the Midland, have been acquired as offices of the Board, and it is now stated that very large houses in spacious grounds are being purchased by it. According to local reports the acquisitions are for the purpose of accommodating officials who require to live in country districts. In many ways this is of public interest and importance. Innumerable officials will be appointed in connection with various nationalisation projects, and if they are to be provided with residences a financially powerful competitor for property will enter the market.

The exact terms of the latest announcement, as published in *The Times* of May 30, are as follows: "Among large country houses in Wales which have been bought by the south-western division of the Coal Board to house their staffs at Crayton, Pentwyn, Margam, for £15,000 as a residence for Mr. T. S. Charlton, production director in the division. The house has 20 rooms and stands in beautiful grounds. Another property which has been purchased is Uplands, at Llanelli, Carmarthenshire, a 10-acre house in its own grounds for which £28,000 was paid. It will be used as a residence for Mr. A. Lindsay, director of finance."

A LONG TENURE ENDED

SOMETHING akin to the sensation of parting with an old friend is felt by the writer in having to record that Broadfield, near Ryde, Isle of Wight, which has often been mentioned in *Country Life*, has passed out of the possession of the Frewen family. They had held it for fully 250 years. Mrs. Clare Sheridan has accepted an offer of £16,000 for the house and 86 acres, through Messrs. C. C. Carter and Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. The 14th-century stone manor house, which was greatly admired by Sir Edwin Lutyens, has Tudor additions. The gardens, extending to 6 acres, are adorned by topiary, box and yew. The buyer is Mr. Ronald Traquair, of the Coldstream Guards.

LAUNDE ABBEY SOLD PRIVATELY

LAUNDE ABBEY, six miles from Oakham, Rutland, was the subject of a long historical note in the Estate Market page of *COUNTRY LIFE* on May 9. The estate of 1,585 acres had been privately sold by Rev. H. Sparke of Sotherton, Worksop, by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley. Not much of the once flourishing establishment, founded in the reign of Henry I for Black Canons, still remains, but when an Elizabethan house was built on the site and sold for a private owner, the private chapel was incorporated and now forms a wing of the house. The chapel contains stained glass of rich colour and quaint design, as well as a wall tomb of Gregory, Lord Cromwell, who died in 1589, and a rude carving of his armorial bearings.

Ecclesiastically, the interest of Launde Abbey is the vigorous fight made by its priors to save part at least of its plate and other movables when the notorious Lord Keeper, Thomas Cromwell, made up his mind to appropriate them. He succeeded in his nefarious scheme, but did not live long to enjoy ownership. The story of Launde Abbey's struggles sheds a strong light on the readiness of persons living near the Abbey to act as

informers about what the priors tried to do to protect their rights.

Arlington Manor, near Newbury, Berkshire, bought by the Mary Hale Grammar School for Deaf Children, and recently mentioned in these columns, changed hands at auction, held by Messrs. Dorewalt, Watson and Barton, who state that the price paid was £20,000 for the residence, five cottages and 154 acres of park and woodland.

THE LATE MR. J. L. GARVIN'S HOME

GREGORIES, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, the home of the late Mr. J. L. Garvin and originally the farm-house on an extensive estate that Edmund Burke held, recently came under the hammer of Mr. W. H. J. Long (Messrs. Hampton and Sons). The house, built in 1600 from the centre of Beaconsfield, and was referred to in the Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in Buckinghamshire. Mr. Garvin adapted an ancient barn near it as a library.

There are nearly 6 acres of land and a freehold. Bidder number 80,000, but after quickly reaching £28,500 it stopped, and the freehold was withdrawn at a formal bid of £10,000 for private treaty.

BROADLAND PROPERTY CHANGES HANDS

CAPTAIN K. H. WATT has bought Broad Hall, Norfolk, and about 1,550 acres, formerly the residence of the late Sir Gerald Talbot. The property is noted for wild-fowl shooting, comprising one of the brooks connected with the River Thurne, as well as some farms and small villages. Mr. Norman J. Hodgeson (Merton and Well and Sons) acted for the buyer, and the firm will manage the estate. Messrs. Hampton and Sons were agents for the vendors.

KEEN DEMAND FOR COUNTRY HOUSES

EXCEPTIONAL keenly competitive auction marked the sale by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, acting with Messrs. Lacy Scott and Sons, of Abbotts Leigh, near Farningham, Sussex, with 3 acres, and the hammer fell at £28,100. The Grange, a house of the Georgian period in 38 acres at Crayke, North Yorks., has changed hands since the auction. It includes three cottages and a detached residence. Another property called The Grange, about 40 acres, at Farnham Common, Buckinghamshire, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley to Mr. Fred. P. Hart, a client of Messrs. Whatley Hart and Co. The house contains old Jacobean oak. A lodge, a bungalow and a pair of cottages are also comprised in the sale.

Pendnor House, near Chesham, Bucks, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley in conjunction with a local agent, incorporates the materials of a 18th-century house and tithe-barn. On the 125 acres are model farm buildings and an 18th-century farm-house and cottages.

A modernised Georgian house, in a well-wooded spot on the southern fringe of Dartmoor, has been sold privately.

Hillgrove, Ivybridge, Devon, standing in about 72 acres, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley.

Shrewsbury and its environment make up the main view from an Anglesey house and 19 acres, known as Carrig Booth, at Llanddaniel, also sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and ALEXTER.

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STYLED for Sun and Sea

• (Left) White cotton frock printed with florin spots in madder, scarlet or blue; it has a sun top or can be crossed over and tied round the waist. Horrockses Fashions from Simpsons. Agnamarine and coral-pink cotton frock with puff sleeves and pockets that untie and lie flat for laundering. Horrockses Fashions

• (Below) Sun and swim suit in a white rayon printed with sweet peas that has been treated to be waterproof. The skirt sips around brief briefs; the brassiere has adjustable straps to allow one to tan evenly. Jantzen, from Lillywhites

DESIGNERS have let themselves go in their collections for the seaside and produced charming and versatile clothes, full of colour and novelty. Even the slacks have caught the prevailing liveliness and gone gay. The sober classic greys and navy slacks seem almost obliterated by the cinnamons, crimson, the sail red, ice blue, lemon and maize, while alongside the shirts are even brighter. Yellow and red is the most popular combination of all; crimson slacks with a lemon or mustard shirt, clay-red slacks with honey or maize, or tawny yellow with rust. Some slacks are attached to pinafore tops—very smart worn with a polo-necked sweater on a cold day, or one of the sweaters knitted like a blouse with a collar to pull out and over the top.

Your beach dress this summer is generally printed in bright, clear colours and generally full in the skirt. It can play several roles in the wardrobe—by a flick of the hand the cotton frock with the florin dots illustrated can be transformed from a sunbathing dress with a bare midriff to a crossover bodice that you can wear or draw in. On the beach it ties as a brassiere top. The low-backed and backless linings and cover-ups have matching boleros or jackets or a shawl scarf to hide the bare back and tuck in either side of the front of a low, round neckline. Printed cottons at Lillywhites, Noah's Ark animals in fresh, mixed pastels, button down the front and have full, gathered knee-length skirts. The tops are cut like a shirt and underneath there are brassières and shorts—the classic formula for the sun. Play suits in the same cotton are worn over short trunks and are intended for the very young and the very slim. Laesta Ramage tailor their heavy linen play suit-cum-town suit and show it as a tailored shirt, skirt and shorts. The shirt is extra long to tuck in well; the skirt has deep knapsack pockets and is saddle-stitched. Shorts end midway to the knees. Printed linen midcalf slacks are teamed with fine wool sweaters in deep and vivid colours—emerald, cinnamon, splendid for sailing.

Swim suits are smartest when they are navy, plum, black, turquoise, and either one-piece, with white shoulder straps, or two-piece. Satin swim suits, woven with elastic, are gauged across a front panel or sometimes all over. Cottons and rayons have been specially processed to be waterproof, absolutely fast coloured and generally serviceable, and they make some attractive two-piece swim suits, plain as well as printed. Styles vary very much from those in fancy printed fabrics with full, short

(Continued on page 1130)



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RAFFIA ACCESSORIES FOR HIGH SUMMER

(Left) Lacquered shoes from Haynes in natural colour. (Below) A can hat decorated with flowers and gilt lace shoes in natural colour and red. Both from Fratelli and Mason.

sweater and jacket, and the brighter the colours the better the outfit looks this year. In their advance autumn collection, Doryville show thick hand-knitted grey sweaters which pull down well over the hips and are belted in tightly to the waist with a linen webbing belt in bright, intense shades of orange or green.

Beach accessories carry on the peasant scheme of the full-skirted frocks. Milkmaid hats in raffia with wide brims, tiny shallow crowns, tie under the chin with ribbons and match the sandals and lace shoes which are made from plaited raffia on deep soles like clogs. Your bag for the beach can be a canvas knapsack or bucket, an immense plastic envelope quilted all over or plastic and shaped like a large fish. Wide linen webbing belts laced in front have a small kitbag attached for money and make-up. Lotus are making wedge cotton and linen sandals from the same material as the beach dress.

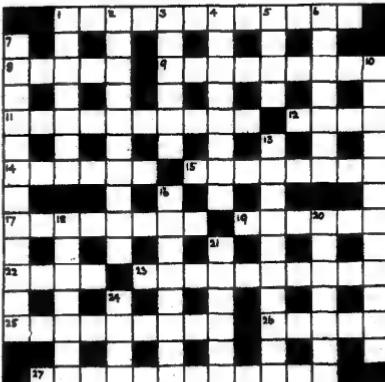
Contours for the beach this year differ considerably from last. The tailored things, that is slacks, shorts and shirts, remain as classic in line as ever: they are always best when they are simple. But colour plays a tremendous part and the general effect is more feminine and the colours used are deeper. This year, the crisp summer dresses and the beach dresses have the fullness springing directly from the waistline, not from the hips. Belts are wide, often inlet, and the tiny waist is everything.

and in my waist is everything.
Colours are the brighter range of pastels, always combined with white—a begonia pink and a salmon pink, coral, turquoise, azure, lettuce green and heliotrope. The Batak cottons used for the West African trade make some most effective three-piece outfits for the beach in quite a different colour category, being mixtures of dark, rich green and sepiia brown with peacock blues or tawny yellows used with crimson and sultry pinks. Heliotrope is a shade that looks new and smart.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

CROSSWORD No. 905

Notes.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



ACROSS

- When it is still possible to have a surfeit of cheese? (7, 5)
- What may be in the locket? (5)
- Curt, Tubby and Singer (9)
- What is the name of a burglar? (10)
- What is transmogrify useful? (4)
- Not the German kind of doodle (6)
- George Herbert's rectory, or an Oxford college to be? (8)
- Ice-heaps (anagr.) (8)
- Interferes (8)
- That terrible Russian (4)
- The gate has trees in front of it (10)
- Silent? (9)
- "And slowly answered Arthur from the ____: 'The old order changeth ____; the new ____' (5)
- Current traffic condition (6, 6)

DOWN

1. She is Irish (7)
2. Address for the ambassador (10)
3. Boat for the most part of anything but smart appearance (6)
4. In other words a cry in the sedge brought back memories (8)
5. man _____ property makes a confession (4)
6. His career may call him to the bars (7)
7. Beat in prayer (anagram.) (12)
10. This team takes 22 hours, as you might say (6, 6)
13. A castle had to be to any good (10)
16. Banter between plate-layer's (8)
18. Is paint his forte? (7)
20. This sits the site of the Taj Mahal in its surroundings (7)
21. It probably included a dozen cups originally (6)
24. Don't upset her; you might make her rave (4)

The writer of Crossword No. 903 is

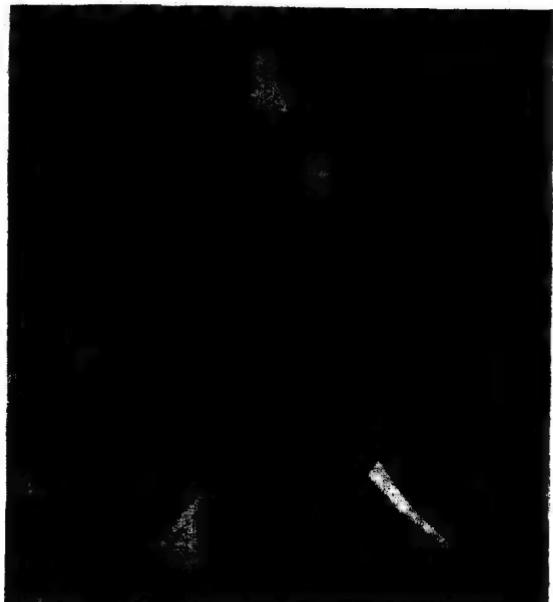
Mr. W. Kent.

11, Cheatham Place,
London, S.W.1.

SOLUTION TO No. 986. The winner of this Crossword, the clue of which appeared in the issue of June 6, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1 and 8, Chipping Norton; 9, Souvenir; 10, Stores; 11, Over-
seas; 13, Shanty; 14, St.; 16, Flue; 19, Cobalt; 21, Leo;
22, Roots; 23, Hodge; 25, Amadeo; 26, Damask; 31, Jetison;
DOWN.—1, Cator; 2, Inured; 5, Pleas; 4, Nolens; 6, Outstrip; 7, Tur-
bines; 8, Nosology; 12, Skillet; 15, Let; 16, Fog; 17, Scored;
18, Chimes; 19, and 23, Rhubarb; 24, Assent; 26, Cleone; 28,

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CI No. 2631

JUNE 20, 1947

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25 bedrooms, 6 reception, Main drawing room and productive gardens. Small house and 4 cottages. Out-buildings. 2½ ACRES.

BAROAN AT £12,000

Although previously used for a private residence, would make an ideal home for a large school.

JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Land Agents, Yeovil.

AUCTION, WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

DEESIDE, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF ABOYNE

LOVELY MODERN RESIDENCE AND SMALL ESTATE OF 15 ACRES.

RIN-HA-HAVEN

On the north bank of the famous salmon and trout river.



Comprising: Inner and outer hall, drawing room, library, scullery, room, 7 principal bed and dressing rooms, 2 maid's bedrooms, 2 servants' rooms and sitting room, a bathroom. Domestic services, including laundry, gardener's house, garage and stable block.

The property is set in tree-shaded lawns and flower beds; useful terraces provide sun and shade. Large, productive kitchen garden, 200 ft. by 100 ft. Large, two-storeyed stable block half concealed in grounds.

In all about 1½ ACRES. Will be offered for Sale by Auction with Vacant Possession.

Units sold previously by private treaty.

Illustrated catalogues from the Auctioneers: KINNEAR & FALCONER, Stenehaven, Abberley, Herefordshire (Tel. 2121); or JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 18, Bond Street, London, W.1 (Tel. 51941/2).

BETTWS-Y-COED, NORTH WALES

STONE-BUILT HOUSE

Delightfully situated in 4½ ACRES of well-timbered grounds.

Hall, study, library, lounge, panelled dining room, Xmas room, breakfast room, conservatory, sunroom, domestic offices, staff sitting room. Central heating. Cottage and fast satisfactorily let. Garage for 3 cars.

Long lease for fishing rights on 1 mile of River Llugwy at nominal rent. Provides very good sea trout and salmon fishing.

The house is easily worked and ideal as a private residence or guest house.

Freshhold for sale together with most valuable collection of antique furniture and complete contents of the house.

Further particulars from the Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 18, Bond Street, Chester (Tel. 1936).

SOMERSET

Within reach of Bath, Frome and Warminster.

LOVELY LITTLE ESTATE

CHARMING GEORGIAN RESIDENCE



With 4 reception rooms, 6 main bedrooms, 2 maid's bedrooms, domestic quarters, 2 bathrooms.

Male electric fire, central heating, through lighting, stable, garage, etc.

6 ACRES of gardens, orchard, etc.

VACANT POSSESSION.

Two cottages (service tenancies).

36 acres of parkland (at present let).

Price £15,000 Freshhold.

Apply to the Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel. 1088).

Gloucester 3212
(5 lines)

WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1

KENT

In a fine high position directly overlooking the sea and next to a well-known golf course.

E A MOST ATTRACTIVE MARINE RESIDENCE



In first-class order throughout. Six bed, 2 bath, 8 reception rooms and cottage.

CENTRAL HEATING.

MAIN SERVICES.

GARAGE.

Grounds of ½ ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE. PRICE £8,250

Sole Agents: Messrs. COCKETT, HENDERSON & CO., Station Gates, Broadstairs (Tel.: Broadstairs 184), and WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, London, W.1.

400 ft. above sea level with delightful views to the south. Under 2 miles from excellent market town.

A VERY PLEASANT MODERN RESIDENCE



reached by a drive with lodge. Seven bed, 2 bath, 8 reception rooms, 2 staff, 2 bath, hall and 3 reception rooms.

MAIN WATER.

Cottages. Hard tennis court.

PRICE £15,000, WITH OVER 15 ACRES

Appointments to view through the Sole Agents: WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, London, W.1.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

KENT

3½ miles Tunbridge Wells (London under 1 hour). On bus route 450 ft. up, picked position on full south slope, with magnificent views.

GROVEHURST, PEMBURY

Fine Georgian Residence lavishly equipped and in excellent order.

Approached by drive with terrace and lawns. Hall, 5 reception, billiards room, 9 principal, 6 secondary bedrooms (11 with built-in wardrobes), oak parquet floor.

Central heating. Main service. Garage for 4 cars. For 5. Stabling. Cottages. Grounds include lawns, terrace, rock gardens, kitchen garden, garage, green house, orchard, woodland.

ABOUT 9 ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION
SOLD PRIVATELY.

For Sale by Auction in July next (unless previously sold privately).
Solicitors: Messrs. SNELL & CO., 10, London Gardens, Tunbridge Wells.
Auctioneers: Messrs. INBBET, MORELY, CARD & CO., London Road, Tunbridge Wells, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (Par. 1/.)

BETWEEN ASHFORD AND FOLKESTONE

Delightful House of Georgian character, extremely well-equipped and in first-rate order.



ABOUT 17 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

VACANT POSSESSION

Agents: Messrs. ALFRED J. BURROWS, CLEMENTS WINSTON & BONS, Ashford Kent, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (48172)

Mayfair 3771
(10 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

Telegrams:
"Gallerie, Waddo, London."

By direction of the Trustees of F. H. Giben, deceased.

BUCKS. 20 MILES FROM LONDON

Close to station with excellent service of trains to London, 275 feet up facing due south. Pleasant seclusion.

"TREGENNA," GERRARDS CROSS

A very attractive Freehold residence, built entirely of brick with tiled roof and leaded windows. Large hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, sun lounge, kitchen, bathroom, and compact offices. All main services. Telephone.

Heated greenhouse. Delightful matured gardens of ½ acre, including tennis court.

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.

For Sale by Auction at the Ethelapse Hotel, Gerrards Cross, on Wednesday, July 9, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. GARTON & CO., 9, Cavendish Square, W.1. Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (Par. 1/.)

9 MILES FROM OXFORD

Well situated, facing S.W. Outskirts of a delightful old village.

PIERS OLD STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE

dating back in part to 1500, sympathetically restored and enlarged.

Lounges hall, 5 reception, billiard room, 10 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 servants' bedrooms, complete offices with "Agas." Main electricity. Central heating. ample water supply. Garage for 2. Conservatory. Large stable and outbuildings. First-rate cottage with main electricity and bathroom.

Very large, matured gardens with lawns, flower beds, shrubs and trees enclosed by old stone walls. Mounds, fishpond and a series of terraces and ponds forming water garden, kitchen garden, orchard and parklike grassland.

ABOUT 39 ACRES. FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (48575)

Telegrams:
"Gallerie, Waddo, London."

NICHOLAS

(Established 1908)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1; 1, STATION ROAD, READING

OXFORDSHIRE

Adjacent to quiet old market town.

A DELIGHTFUL EARLY GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

FOR SALE

Modernised but still retaining the old-world charm, situated in a picturesque position well above but on the banks of the Thames.

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, billiards room, 16 bed and dressing rooms, 8 bathrooms, usual offices.

MAIN SERVICES. CENTRAL HEATING.

Stabling for 4. Coal house, etc. Also 2 cottages.

The outstanding feature are the beautifully timbered gardens in keeping with the property with a long frontage to the river. Tennis, croquet lawns. Charming clipped hedges and shaped yews, flagged paths, etc. Also walled kitchen garden with range of glasshouses.

IN ALL ABOUT 3½ ACRES

Further particulars apply to the Sole Agents, as above.

By direction of the Trustees of H. C. Orpwood, and the glorious Chilterns, 25 miles of London. THAT DELIGHTFUL FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE MOOR FARM, LANE END, HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS. For Sale by Auction.

Comprising a lovely old house, restored and modernised by the late Robert Orpwood, and by the late Mr. L. T. Lupton. Full of old world beams and paneling.

Two bed and dressing rooms, 2 servants' bedrooms. 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, excellent offices. Central heating. Company's shop, garage, etc. Stabling. Garage. Charming gardens and paddocks.

IN ALL ABOUT

26½ ACRES

which Messrs. NICHOLAS, London and Reading, will sell by auction at the Town Hall, Reading, on Friday, June 27, at 2 p.m. (unless previously sold privately). Particulars and conditions of sale of the property, Messrs. DAVIES, WEST & JONES AND CO. Ltd., 4, New Square, Lincolns Inn, W.C.2, or of the Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1, and at Reading.

CHIPPING
NORTON
99

OXFORD
4467/8

In the triangle formed by Oxford, Thame and Wallingford.

STADHAMPTON MILL, NEAR OXFORD

THE UNIQUE AND DELIGHTFULLY PICTURESQUE LITTLE PROPERTY comprising a stone-built GEORGIAN RESIDENCE worthy of further modernisation and extending bedrooms, domestic offices and 4 bedrooms, having main electric light, gas, power, central heating, etc. and ample water supply. A adjoining Ancient Water Cress Mill (still functioning). Garage, stable and outbuildings. Gardens, orchard, and paddockland; in all about 3½ ACRES, VACANT POSSESSION. To be sold by Auction on July 21 next (unless sold privately meanwhile).

Actioneers: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.

NORTH OXON—WARRICKS BORDERS

RATLEY HALL, RATLEY, NEAR BANBURY

The Stone-Built Gaol Residence (formerly the vicarage), containing, briefly, 8 sitting rooms, 8 bed and dressing rooms, attic bedroom, bathroom. Main electricity available. Gas, central heating, water supply. Large garden, terrace, etc. Terraced garden and orchard, in all about 5½ ACRES, VACANT POSSESSION.

To be sold privately or by Auction at a date to be later announced.

Actioneers: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.

By direction of F. E. Whittington, Esq., D.L., J.P.

FRINGFORD LODGE ESTATE, NEAR BICESTER, OXON

The first time in the Market for eighty-one years.

In all about 265 ACRES

The choice FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE (originally formed by the late Sir Richard Fringford) now available for sale by auction as a whole, or in lots. Lots 1: Fringford Lodge (attractive modernised house), cottages, farm, stable, farm buildings and about 60 ACRES.) Dymock's Farm, 2: cottages, farm, stable, farm buildings and about 100 ACRES.) Dymock's Farm, the whole, with the exception of one cottage and about 20 acres of land.)

Actioneers: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.

BUCKS—OXON BORDERS

1½ miles Oxford, 2 miles Banbury, 3½ miles Bicester.

A VERY CHARMING MODERNISED TUDOR MANOR HOUSE in perfect order. Lounge hall, 8 sitting rooms, 5 principal bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 maid's bedrooms, maid's room, kitchen, scullery, larder, etc. Garage and stable. Very lovely gardens and orchard, about 8½ ACRES. A further 17 acres of adjoining pastureland may be purchased if desired.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Strongly recommended by the Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

Regent 6222 (15 lines)

Teleg. "Colonist, Picay, London"

BETWEEN EAST GRINSTEAD AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS

At varying altitudes amid beautiful undulating country.

"HETHIE PLACE," NEAR COWDEN



Small Freehold Residential, Sporting and Agricultural Estate, with XIIth century Residence

abounding in a wealth of old oak and with additions:

Hall, 4 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, dressing room, 8 bathrooms, nursery, 4 attics and complete offices.

Own electric light and water supply. Central and L.H.W. system.

Two cottages, chauffer's Sat.

Useful outbuildings. Gardens, grass, arable and valuable woodlands.

In all nearly
123 ACRES

With Vacant Possession.

For Sale by Auction on Wednesday, July 22 next, at 2.30 p.m. (unless sold privately.)

Particulars from the Auctioneers: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

In the BEAUTIFUL PINE and HEATHER COUNTRY

Between Farnham and Freshham.

DELIGHTFUL MODERN RESIDENCE

in a woodland setting.



Particulars of Sale Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (552,231).

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (Tel. WIM. 0061), & BISHOP'S STORTFORD (Tel. 243).

SURREY

An old-world home of peaceful charm (800 ft. up with views), 15 miles from Town.

Ten bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms.

Complete domestic offices.

GARAGE, etc.

A lovely old barn and 3 cottages.

1 1/2 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £15,000

Inspected and recommended by HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (546,709).

SEVENOAKS, KENT
TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT
OXFORD, DEDDINGTON, OXFORD
REEDING, SURREY
KEIGATE, SURREY

IN THE CENTRE OF SEVENOAKS

Suitable for a private residence or for professional purposes.

AN ATTRACTIVE FULL-BUILT DETACHED RESIDENCE

Well appointed throughout and containing 6 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, good domestic offices, garage, etc. with ample parking space.

PRICE FREEHOLD £7,200

Further details of the Owner's Agents: IBBETT, MOSELEY, CARD & CO., 125, High Street, Sevenoaks, and Station Approach, Sevenoaks (Tel. 2247/48).

HURMURINE, DORSET (66)
EDDINGTON, MONTGOMERYSHIRE
SOUTHAMPTON (Brownsome 15)

SOUTH HANTS

(Between Fordingbridge and Ringwood, adjoining the New Forest and within easy reach of Bournemouth).

TO BE LET FURNISHED FOR ONE YEAR

SUPERB MODERN HOUSE, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, 3 cottages. Every modern convenience and very comfortably furnished.

Own garden and dairy produce. Recommended by the Sole Agents: RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, Salisbury.

IBBETT, MOSELEY, CARD & CO.

WILDERNESSE, SEVENOAKS

In a situation of great beauty and convenience, this attractive modern house.

Entrance hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 semi-detached bedrooms. All mains-service. Garage and out-buildings. Delightful garden with fine specimen trees, topiary, ponds and woodland about

5 1/2 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £12,000

Owner's Agents: IBBETT, MOSELEY, CARD & CO., 125, High Street, Sevenoaks, and Station Approach, Sevenoaks (Tel. 2247/48).

RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, F.S.I.

WILTSHIRE

The Brigmore Estate, Merton, near Salisbury

For Sale by Auction on 12 June (unless sold privately) at 10 a.m. at the Red Lion Hotel, Merton, Wiltshire, in 12 parts.

Including the comfortable, well-proportioned and charming **GEORGIAN RESIDENCE** eminently suitable for Country Club, School, etc., and occupying a secluded situation in magnificently timbered grounds. Fifteen bedrooms (8 with bath), 5 bathrooms, 4 fireplaces, reception rooms, dining room, kitchen, scullery, larder, etc. with a fine swimming pool. Three good cottages. The Barn House (4 bed, bath, etc.), with fishing:

8 semi-detached cottages, and arable land, the whole being about

1 1/2 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £12,000

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, OWN WATER AND OWN SUPPLY. Vacant Possession of Brigmore House, The Barn House and Brigmore Cottages on completion.

Advertisers: Messrs. TARRANT & VINCENT & FULFORD, Salisbury.

Auctioneers: Messrs. RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, Salisbury.

ASHLEY PLACE, BIRMINGHAM (Trotter 2801)

OXFORD (2467-2468)

HANTS-WILTS BORDERS

(between Salisbury and Andover).

DELIGHTFUL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

with attractive House of over 2,000 sq. ft., Seven bedrooms, hall, dressing room, bathroom, atrium hall, 3 reception rooms.

Walled gardens. Garage. Stabling. Four cottages. Farm buildings, etc., the whole embankment of about

2 1/2 ACRES

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, OWN WATER AND OWN SUPPLY. Possession of the House: 31 March, 1948. Farm 1st at 1100 p.m. Apply: RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, Salisbury.

MAIDENHEAD (Tel. 86)

BUNNINGDALE (Tel. Acott 73)

GIDDY & GIDDY

STOKE POLES, BUCKS
(almost adjoining the famous Golf Course)

UNIQUE MODERN RESI- DENCE, LUXURIOUSLY APPOINTED

Four bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, ideal domestic offices. Complete central heating. Oak floors. Large, double bedrooms. Beautiful grounds of about

1 1/2 ACRES

**FREEHOLD, £5,000, OR
AUCTION LATER**

STOKE POLES, BUCKS

A CHARMING, TUDOR
REINFORCED, INCORPOR-
ATING A Wealth of
Genuine Old
MATERIAL

Oak beams, mellow tiles, hand

carved panelling, etc.

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2

reception rooms, modern kitchen, etc.

Large, double bedrooms.

Pretty garden of 1 1/2 ACRES

**FREEHOLD, £5,000, OR
AUCTION LATER**

Hol Agents: Messrs. GIDDY & GIDDY, 8, Macknade Street, Slough. (Tel. 20048)

Sole Agents: Messrs. GIDDY & GIDDY, 8, Macknade Street, Slough. (Tel. 20048)

WINDSOR (Tel. 78) SLOUGH (Tel. 20048)

Grosvenor 1888
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1776)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR Sq., W.1

FINE JACOBEAN RESIDENCE, PART EARLY NORMAN BARONIAL CASTLE

Erected as a stronghold against the Welsh.

The subjects of two illustrated articles in COUNTRY LIFE.

THE RESIDENCE has many historical associations and medieval air but has compact, well-planned accommodation and is replete with all modern conveniences.

Sixteen bed., 4 bath, great hall, dining and drawing rooms, all with 16th-century paneling, tower library, up-to-date offices.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, EXCELLENT WATER-COMPLETE CENTRAL HEATING.
MODERN DRAINAGE.
GARAGE, STABLEING, 4 COTTAGES.

Occupying lovely position in Wottonshire, long frontage to the Severn. Beautiful views over the river valley.

Price £10,000 per acre.

Site 111 acres. 390 ft. above sea.

This charming old Cotswold stone residence

approached by 2 drives. Hall with coffer, 3 reception rooms, 2 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bath, 8 bedrooms, 2 staff sitting rooms. Modern services.

Central heating. Garage, stabling, cottage.

Pretty gardens and grounds, tennis and other sports, formal and sunken, kitchen garden, etc.

In all about 21 ACRES

Hunting with the Berkeley, for deer, fox, hare, and pheasant. All particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE AND SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (07504).

Robert Place, Eaton Sq.,
West Malvern, Glos.,
Sunny Vale, Glos.,
Wimborne, Dorset.

Fine old grounds laid out practically as in 17th century, with magnificent old yew hedge, hard tennis court, bowling green, tennis lawn, kitchen gardens, nut-tree, etc.

Rich pastures and some 22 acres orchard.

IN ALL ABOUT 107 ACRES

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION (except of 80 acres let) IN OCTOBER, INCLUDING THE LORDSHIP OF THE MANOR.

It might be possible to purchase certain of the contents.

The Property has been inspected and is most highly recommended by the Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. From time to time, plans and historical Notes can be obtained. (07504).

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Station 111 miles. 390 ft. above sea.

THIS CHARMING OLD COTSWOLD STONE RESIDENCE

approached by 2 drives. Hall with coffer,

3 reception rooms, 2 bed and dressing

rooms, 2 bath, 8 bedrooms, 2 staff

sitting rooms. Modern services.

Central heating. Garage, stabling,

cottage.

Pretty gardens and grounds, tennis and other sports, formal and sunken, kitchen garden, etc.

In all about 21 ACRES

Hunting with the Berkeley, for deer, fox, hare, and pheasant. All particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE AND SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (07504).

"CLACKCLOSE" DOWNHAM MARKET, NORFOLK

Close to the centre of The Town yet in a secluded position. 5 minutes from Main Line Station with excellent service of trains.

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

Containing hall, 3 reception rooms, 2 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bath, 6 bedrooms, 2 staff

sitting rooms. Modern services.

All rooms have fitted

bedding in 4 bedrooms.

Garage, stabling.

Very pretty grounds, kitchen garden, well wooded parkland, 200 ft. front.

22 ACRES FREEHOLD

VACANT POSSESSION

ON COMPLETION. For Sale by Auction at

The Town Hall, Downham Market, on 1947, at 3 p.m. Illustrations and Plans of the Site, Messrs. C. G. H. COLE & CO., 37, Norfolk St., Strand, W.C.2, or of the Joint Auctioneers, Messrs. ELOWORTHY AND GROUNDS, Upwell, near Wadebridge, Camb. (Tel.: Upwell 2209), or Messrs. GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount St., London, W.1. (Tel.: Gro. 1539).

F. L. MERCER & CO.
SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY W.1

Regent 2481

FIRST-CLASS HOME IN RURAL HERTS

Favourite Harpenden district. Surrounded by open fields.

EXCELLENT MODERN HOUSE WITH BRIGHT AND SPACIOUS INTERIOR

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, fitted wash basin, 2 bathrooms.

Central heating throughout.

Main services.

Garage for 2 cars.

Inexpensive gardens and grounds, 5 ACRES

FREEHOLD £7,800.

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION OF PURCHASE

Further particulars from the Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel. Regent 2481.

DELIGHTFUL TUDOR HOUSE IN NORTH ESSEX

GENUINE PERIOD HOUSE mentioned in report on Historical Monuments. Set in the quiet of old gardens surrounded by typically English pastoral country. Near the Sea. Excellent for a family home or for a small business. Garage for 3. Other outbuildings. 6 ACRES. £7,500. Further 12 acres available.—F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

BETWEEN TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND THE COAST

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED COUNTRY HOUSE standing in well-timbered grounds. Entirely rural position, facing south with beautiful views. Three rec., 6 bedrooms, 6 bed. bath. Main services. Garage and outbuildings. Garden, orchard, woodland, paddock, 5½ ACRES OR MORE. £6,800.—F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

NEW FOREST, NEAR RINGWOOD

AN ATTRACTIVE SMALL HOUSE of the cottage residence type. High position on gravel soil. 5-4 rec., 4-6 bed, bath. Main services. Partial central heating. Well-timbered garden, mainly orchard, 1½ ACRES. £4,000.—F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

NEWLY BUILT COUNTRY HOUSE

ATTRACTIVELY SITUATED, high up, with lovely views. LAVISHLY FITTED RESIDENCE OF CHARMING DESIGN. 5 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 reception, 9 bed and dressing rooms (all b. and c.), 2 bath-rooms. Electric light. Central heating. Aga. Cooker. Three reception rooms. Partial central heating. Old oak, excellent stables, very charming matured garden, keeping with residence. £10,000.—

POSSESSION SEPTEMBER

Cottage available.

Highly recommended.

Price £10,000 (approx.)

Sole Agents: CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

'Phone: Brixton 8801
55429 (2 lines)

W. MEREFORD: MINIATURE ESTATE, BLACKS COTTAGE, CHALMERS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

THE TOWER is beautiful district. Six bed., 2 bathrooms, 3 charming reception. Electric light. Central heating. Aga. Cooker. Three reception rooms. Partial central heating. Old oak, excellent stables, very charming matured garden, keeping with residence. £10,000.—

POSSESSION SEPTEMBER

Cottage available.

Highly recommended.

Price £10,000 (approx.)

Sole Agents: CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

PERFECT SMALL COTSWOLD MANOR HOUSE

Locally known between Cheltenham and Moreton-in-
Gowt. Price £10,000 (approx.)

Sole Agents: CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

Price £10,000 (approx.)

Sole Agents: CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

Price £10,000 (approx.)

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Price £10,000 (approx.)

Sole Agents: CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

'Phone: Brixton 8801
55429 (2 lines)

PAUNTY PLACE, REDMARLEY, NR. LEDBURY

HEREFORD & GLoucestershire, in lovely country

surrounded by ancient woods, rolling hills, and

attractive streams. Three rec., 7 bed., and bathroom. Electric

light. Main water. Central heating. Cottage, buildings, outbuildings, 200 ft. front. 10 acres. £7,500.—

POSSESSION.—Sole Agents: CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

NEAR LUDLOW, SHROPSHIRE

DELIGHTFUL COTTAGE, 1½ ACRES, situated in

lovely views. Three reception, 5 bed (3 b. and c.),

bathrooms. Electric light. Garage and paddock, 5 ACRES. Strongly recommended.—CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

5, MOUNT ST.
LONDON, W.1

By direction of C. L. Leyd, Esq., M.C.

CURTIS & HENSON

BERKSHIRE
In the parishes of East Ilsley, Basildon, Hamptondene, Garford and Wantage.

PORTIONS OF THE LOCKINGE ESTATE

Including Ashridge Farm, 355 acres with Vacant Possession.

Garford	...	400 acres
Langley	...	632 "
Beeton	...	806 "
South Stanmore	...	411 "
North Stanmore	...	706 "
Worlds End	...	63 "
Grovefield	...	39 "

Numerous cottages, gardens, allisannia, accommodation land, building sites and areas of woodland. The whole extending to approximately

3,813 ACRES

Grosvenor 8181 (8 lines)
Established 1675

BEEDON HILL HOUSE

To be offered for sale in Lots by Public Auction at the CHEQUERS MOTEL, NEWBURY, in Two Sessions commencing at 10.45 a.m. and 2 p.m. on THURSDAY, JULY 3, 1947.

Illustrated particulars (price 2/6) from the Auctioneers: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1 (Grosvenor 8181).

WEYBRIDGE
(Tel.: 68)

EWBANK & CO.

COBHAM
(Tel. 47)

SURREY—ST. GEORGE'S HILL

Lonely position with views to the Hog's Back and Windsor Castle.
LUXURIOUSLY EQUIPPED MODERN RESIDENCE

SOUTH-WEST ASPECT

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Sole Agents, EWBANK & CO., 7, Baker Street, W.1, and 19, High Street, Cobham, Surrey

W. H. HANDBER,
P.V.A.

SANDERS¹

T. H. HANDBER,
P.V.A.

FORE STREET, SIDMOUTH. Tel.: Sidmouth 41 & 106

SIDMOUTH

A REALLY DELIGHTFUL HOUSE

Unspoiled situation with $\frac{1}{4}$ ACRE charming grounds and stream.

ACCOMMODATION
INCLUDES LOUNGE
HALL WITH CLOAK-
ROOM, 8 ENTERTAIN-
ING AND 7 BEDROOMS,
WITH 2 BATHROOMS
Main South and West
aspects

Large garage
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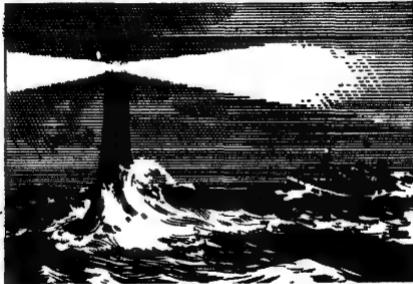
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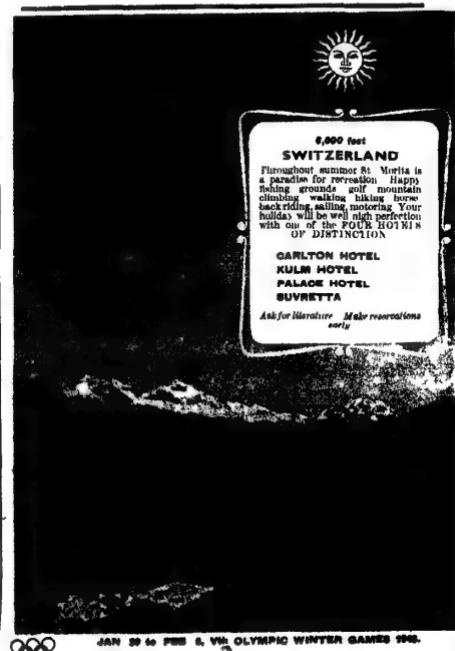
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COUNTRY LIFE

CHECKED 17/67

Vol. CI No. 2631

JUNE 20, 1947



MRS ROBIN VLASTO

Mrs Robin Vlasto whose marriage to Mr Robin Alexander Vlasto of Lavender Farm Ascot Berkshire a nephew of the Countess of Northesk took place recently was formerly Miss Jill Vlasto of The Cottage Hurst Berkshire

COUNTRY LIFE

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LONG-TERM AGRICULTURE

THE final stage of the Agriculture Bill in the Commons—though there may still be some reconsideration of certain included and-tenant arrangements elsewhere—mark the achievement of a settled machinery for keeping agriculture a paying proposition, for securing the best—if not necessarily (at a given moment) the greatest—output of food from the land at our disposal, for maintaining a reasonable control over the efficiency of the farmer and over the planning of the landowner and for offering the agricultural worker an attractive life together with a suitable part in the direction of his industry. The desirability of these aims has long been admitted by all parties, and criticisms of the Bill have, for the most part, sought to improve the machinery by which the Bill seeks to achieve them. Much of this machinery was brought into being during the war. The system of guaranteed prices now becomes automatic within the limits of national production policy, and the local agricultural committees set up in war-time form the working basis of the new control of efficient land use. Both these devices in very much the same form were proposed in *COUNTRY LIFE* in pre-war days, but it took the stark realities of the past decade to show how workable they were and how effective they could be made.

Criticisms of the machinery of control have covered a good deal of ground and many of them can be tested only in practice. Farm-workers are said to be convinced that a mistake has been made in not allowing them greater representation on the county committees, and it is certainly important to secure their full support. The clauses of the Bill dealing with the relations of landlord and tenant were discussed in detail in Standing Committee and the general tenor of the criticisms was that the Bill changed those relationships into a list of statutory requirements with all the lack of humanity which such a list involves. The super-security given to tenants, on the other hand, would, it was said, mean that fewer properties would come into the market and the chances of new capital and fresh blood be diminished. More recent amendments to Clause 30, which is largely intended to protect the sitting tenant against the land speculator buying to re-sell, give the Minister a deciding say in all cases—and wider grounds on which to decide. This greater discretion will not lessen the administrative burden of the Minister, and, though in practice it is unlikely that the county agricultural committee on whose advice the Minister relies would countenance the displacement of any efficient farmer, there will now be a great many cases of "relative hardship" to decide apart from the questions of appeals to the Agricultural Land Tribunal.

Criticisms of the arrangements for assured markets and guaranteed prices are more general in character. One is that they are meaningless so far as the Government retain powers to limit the assured market for particular commodities. The Government undoubtedly hope, with experience, to evolve a technique for steering production "into that channel which will best serve the national interest," but they have met this particular criticism half-way by promising to continue to accept complete liability for assuring markets for the whole of the guaranteed price commodities with the exception of sugar-beet and oats. The exceptions are easy to understand. Beet production is limited by factory capacity, and it might be foolish to encourage farmers to sell the oats required for their own stock. The latter question is closely connected with the long-term programme for limiting arable and expanding livestock production. Mr. Williams has now denied that there is even a vague possibility of the cutting down of imports of feeding-stuffs and says that it is the desire of the Government to buy as many million tons as may be available. This assurance may not satisfy those who see no advantage in bulk purchasing, but it shows that the Government are sticking to their guns in one very important matter.

BIRDS AND MAY

*THE twisted trunk of yonder tree
Is crowned with light as maid with hair,
It throws a circle wide and free,
And holds aloft a canopy
Of tangled blossom on the air.
This wiesen moonlight of the may
Has li a lacy, green-shot bower
Where rosy, tumbling children play,
And birds throw careless song away,
And look so drab a song!*

*So brown to trill a coloured song,
They that swill ride on a swan wing!
Not 'tis this snowy thick-set strong
Of birds that swell out round, along
The boughs, and open white, should sing.*

CONSTANCE N. C. BENNETT.

APLEY HOUSE

FITTING recognition of the munificent gesture of the 7th Duke of Wellington in giving Apley House and its contents to the nation was expressed on the occasion of the Second Reading of the Wellington Museum Bill in the House of Lords. While credit is due to the Government for accepting the financial liabilities and the novel proposal that the donor and his successors should continue to occupy the second floor, the scale of the gift is indicated by Lord Henderson's estimate of the open market value of the site at £400,000 and of the contents at a like sum. The land, leased from the Crown by Lord Butehurst when he built the original house from Adam's design, was bought outright by the great Duke after purchasing the lease from his brother, Marquess Wellesley and enabling him to make his residence there. This was not, as is often supposed, a gift to him from the country. The Wellesley family had been a rich one, and the sale of this immensely important site (which might well have affected Hyde Park Corner as prejudicially as the new power station will South London), together with the disposal of the Wellington treasures, would at least have provided a considerable accretion to its finances. The present Duke, however, who it may be recalled was successively a member of the Diplomatic Corps, a well-known practising architect and a soldier before he succeeded his nephew, had another and loftier scale of values. It will be some time before the war damage to the house can be repaired and the public can enjoy this exceptional donation. But the exhibition opened on Wednesday at the Victoria and Albert Museum of a selection of its artistic and historic wealth affords a magnificent sample of it.

THE COLORADO BEETLE

WE have enjoyed immunity from the infestation of the Colorado beetle for many years, and it is to be hoped that no feeling of false security will prevent the public from giving

every aid in their power to the defence against this dangerous pest, which is now ravaging potato crops in much of Western Europe. Though such infestations as occurred in 1846 were fortunately confined to very small areas, the exhortation to "look out for it" and to report the beetle wherever seen was no unnecessary precaution. Early last summer single beetles were found in various ports and airports with clear histories of carriage on vegetables from the Continent. Other individuals were found later at other points without obvious foreign connections. Actual infestations with numbers of grubs and egg batches were later discovered in ten places in East Anglia and the south-eastern counties, namely Sittingbourne, Deal and Linton, Kent, Newhaven, Addington, Orsett, Edmonton, March, Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire, and Watlington, Norfolk, and, though two of these occurred in one of the main potato-growing districts of Cambridgeshire and Norfolk, infestation was mercifully confined to a comparatively small area. The danger, however, was real enough, and this year sufficient specimens have already been identified to show that cross-Channel traffic of every kind is bound to carry the risk of individual introductions and possible infestation. The moral is to carry the offender at once on discovery to the nearest police station.

OLYMPIA, 1947

THERE has been something lacking in London shows since the war, and now we know what it is—the Royal Tournament. We have had recruiting drives and displays, but the best recruiting drive of all the best tonic to Queen's riders, never was this electrically packed, dramatic shop window of the Services, which in 67 years and 57 shows has drawn more than 12,000,000 people, first to the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, and then to Olympia for the last 40 years. The revival this year must bring back many memories of 1899, when the last show was held, and back to more colourful times, the scarlet and the blue, the full-dress musical rides and drives, the tournament of armoured, crested chivalry, which was a favourite early feature, and all the pomp and circumstance of an unmechanical era. Except for the herbaceous-border pattern of uniforms and school blazers that filled the audience at the private view, and the massed pipers at the finale, colour was largely absent. The horse is still represented, but—signs of the times—by the Royal Army Service Corps and the Veterinary services. Instead of knights in armour, we have the Commandos, knights of the modern age. But changes in detail mean little to the Services and the Royal Tournament; the spirit, the *esprit* which informs the whole proceedings, is unchanged and somehow in that small arena all the Empire and its history seem to be contained. We may take a nostalgic glance back from this Olympia, but we can also take a confident and hopeful look ahead.

CAMBRIDGE AND WOMEN'S DEGREES

FIFTY years ago those who are now elderly gentlemen were swarming outside the Senate House, raising a Cambridge spaundering the black masses of counter-parsons who had come up to vote against women's degrees. Presently they began to throw squibs over the railings, and the great body of M.A.s retired cautiously out of range, all save one young and gallant M.A., who remained alone, like the boy on the burning deck, picked up the squibs and hurled them back into the crowd. The survivors of that scene to-day probably stand amazed at their early and reactionary tendencies, and will rejoice that women are now in all human probability to become Members of the University, and that Cambridge will then equal Oxford in sense and chivalry. It is recommended that they be eligible for all offices save that of Proctor and Esquire Bedell, and to those exceptions the most resolute feminists will hardly object. John Leech, who made pleasant fun of the notion of female police, would have been delighted with female proctors. Police-women have come since then, but it is probably wise not to entrust to women the duty of asking a too hilarious young gentleman his name and college.

A

COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

In these Notes recently I commented on the vivid cerulean blue of the common tit in the early part of the year, and wondered why it was that Lord Tennyson, while on the topic of spring changes, overlooked this bird. A correspondent has called my attention to the Rev. H. D. Rawnsley's book, *Memoirs of the Tennysons*, in which there is evidence to prove that one of the reasons why the Poet Laureate of those days did not mention the blue tit was that he was unable to identify it. The author of these memoirs describes how he called the poet's attention to the line in *Im Memoriam* which runs "fits by the sea-blue bird of March," and asked what bird it was that he was alluding to. Lord Tennyson replied that "supposed" it must have been the kingfisher, and he was then pointed out to him that, though the kingfisher might "shoot by" or "flash by," it certainly would not "fit by." The only blue bird which would move in that fashion would be the blue tit.

"Well," said the old poet, "make it a tit; I daresay it was a tit, but I have quite forgotten, and I know I have told other folk it was a kingfisher."

Incidentally, it occurs to me that this vivid colouring in the early spring is by no means general among blue tits, and that some cocks are far more brilliant than others. I have gone to the trouble of casting a critical sartorial eye over the many pairs nesting in the garden and orchard, but though all the cocks are in bright plumage there is only one of them that has achieved really vivid tropical colouring. I wonder if it pleases his wife, or whether it causes her anxiety when he is kept out late on his search for food.

I HAVE always admired and tried to emulate in every way the real optimist—the man who looks always on the bright side and hopes for the best. I think possibly a lot depends on one's calling in life as to whether one is an optimist or a pessimist, and that presumably an undertaker unconsciously takes a more gloomy view of things than does, say, the man whose task it is to write the script for seed catalogues. The author of seed catalogues, however, has some justification for being an optimist since, if—repeat if—the mice do not eat the seeds immediately they are sown, the slugs do not gnaw off the crop directly it appears above the ground, the weather plays its part all the time, the rabbit does not get through the wire into the garden and the tits and jays do not tear the plants to pieces, the pea-seed about which he writes so lyrically will in all probability grow into the "enormous bearers of large and beautiful pods. 3½ ft. 2s. 4d. per pint—4s. 6d. per quart."

I AM surprised to find that a chief constable should be an optimist, since I should have thought that, with a car being stolen every hour of the day and an armed burglary being committed every hour of the night in his area, he might be excused if he took a somewhat gloomy view of things.

There is, however, at least one chief constable who looks on the bright side and predicts the best. An application was made recently by a former big-game hunter for permission to possess a small revolver, since he was partly disabled and had to spend much of her time alone in an isolated house. The permit was refused by the police and the chief constable's attitude, as defined by the lady's counsel, was that "it is neither necessary nor



SHADOWS ON THE WALL: LENHAM, KENT

T. Edmondson

desirable in this country for persons to have firearms solely for the purpose of protection."

So far as I know there are only two possible reasons for the possession of a small revolver: one is defence and the other must unquestionably be attack. Since some favoured members of the population are still allowed to retain their firearms one is left to imagine the reasons for the concession. In the existing state of the law it is entirely within the discretion of the chief constable to decide whether a man is fitted to be entrusted with a firearm or not. In one district there may reside a Mr. William Smith, M.B.E., who is considered a sufficiently reliable citizen to own a revolver and is, therefore, entitled to put up a show against an armed burglar, whereas Lieut.-Col. John Brown, D.S.O., with bar, *Légion d'Honneur* and the Serbian Order of Chastity, is not, and must submit to being trussed up like a fowl while his possessions are removed. I have often wondered what it is that enables a chief constable to make his decisions. Do the police employ special snipers to listen in to breakfast conversations, and put a black mark against a man if, when he opens his morning mail, he breathes very natural threats of assassination against his correspondents, most of whom to-day are Government planners, food and fuel officers, pig census enumerators, chicken ration distributors and controllers of timber, trowels and tenpenny nails?

I N an interesting booklet, *Ducks and Geese*, issued by the Spanish State Tourist Department, the late Mr. W. H. Riddell, who lived near Seville for seventeen years, gives much information about these migratory wild-fowl in Spain. Mr. Riddell, who died recently, is a great loss to the ornithological world, since he had been a student of the ways of ducks and geese all his life, and was also an extremely clever artist, his water-colour illustrations of his favourite birds being exceptionally good and putting him easily in the front rank.

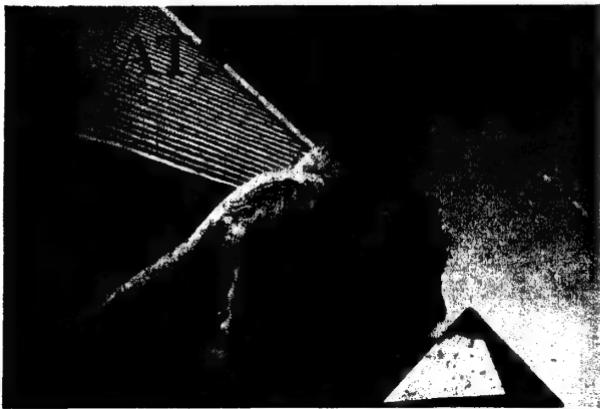
In this pamphlet Mr. Riddell draws comparisons between the migration of wild-fowl to the British Isles and to Spain, and when he mentions that over a hundred grey lag-geese have been shot in a day by one gun in Spain one realises that this country at the best of times harbours only the stragglers from the main migration. To quote Mr. Riddell: "If any British sportsman shot with a shoulder gun as many as ten geese in a day he would have something to talk about for the rest of his life." On the credit side of the British Isles is the fact that, whereas

Spain is visited by only one wild goose—the grey-lag—this country can record almost every year the arrival of at least six varieties.

THE duck that migrate to Spain during the winter months are of much the same varieties as those that come to this country with the addition of the marbled duck, the gadwall and the garganey teal. I admit that both the gadwall and the garganey teal are known in this country, but they are seen only occasionally in certain favoured spots, and the discovery of a specimen of either of these in the bag at the end of the day will usually start a "What-is-it" discussion.

The two varieties that visit southern Spain in the greatest numbers are the wigeon and teal, and there is a particularly good description of the arrival of the first of the wigeon to the autumn-flooded Marismas at the mouth of the Guadalquivir river which gives the reader some idea of the vast magnitude of the migration. Mr. Riddell states that he had been shooting on the marshes in early December, and the sport had been only moderate until midday, when great packs of wigeon began to pass overhead, having flown southwards during the night "with the assured knowledge, the miraculous foresight that all duck possess, that the Marismas were after their long drought in a fit state for their accommodation. We stood to watch their endless companies and battalions pass over in a steady stream until we were almost dazed by the beat and throb of their innumerable wings—and this mighty concourse was merely the small vanguard of the great armies that were yet to come." Mr. Riddell states that there are many ornithologists in Europe who fear that the stock of duck is definitely on the decrease, and that at no distant date the decline will reach a perilous point. He gives it as his opinion that so far there is no decrease in the number that visit Spain every year when the weather conditions are suitable.

ANOTHER particularly interesting point that Mr. Riddell establishes is that the teal is quite capable of flying 300 miles between dusk and dawn for his midnight feed. Teal are frequently shot at Daimiel in New Castile with their crops filled with fresh rice, and the nearest rice fields to Daimiel are those at Valencia, 150 miles to the east. This beats the record established by the Senegal sand-grouse of Kharga Oasis in the Libyan Desert, which every day fly a distance of approximately 200 miles to obtain their food and drink.



WHEREVER one lives one requires entertainment, which can vary according to one's tastes. Kenya has a great deal to command it, and if concerts and plays are lacking, there are compensations. My partner, Mrs. Lloyd Greame, and I find ours in having lions and leopards in and around the house. We have made countless resolutions to desist, but somehow or other, frequently out of pity for some lion or leopard, these come to nothing. Admittedly the association often ends in tears, but that is life—human or animal. In the meantime we have a lot of fun, and so do the cats.

Often we are asked why we like such dangerous, destructive and untrustworthy beasts. There are several answers to this question. First and foremost, lions and leopards are true cats, and so are extremely independent; one has to work for their affections, which cannot be taken for granted. They are very demonstrative when they feel that way, whereas the dog suffers from a sense of duty and so you expect automatic outward affection, not to mention obedience, from it.

Before writing of amusing, tragic and risky episodes I had better mention certain fundamentals. You cannot dogmatise about lions and leopards; they vary in character just as we do, and what may work on Monday may be useless on Thursday. Most people dislike their

uncertainty, but to us this quality is their greatest charm.

When a lion or a leopard—though far fewer leopards have been tried as pets—kills or seriously mauls someone there is nearly always an adequate reason for its actions. The owner has become blasé, careless, cussed, or has tried to make the beast do something that he knows is unwise.

Ours is not a circus act; we have never tried to train our pets to do tricks; we just live with them.

The ideal set-up would be two islands; one for yourselves and the cats, the other for your staff and domestic animals. Failing that, a large tract of land well removed from neighbours or, if that is impracticable, a few acres near the house surrounded by a deep moat so that your pets cannot stray. We have always had far more trouble with our neighbours than with our cats.

We started to live with lions in 1928, beginning with Romeo and Juliet, whom we bought from the local zoo. We had wanted one lion only, since we wished to find out if a solitary beast would not be more satisfactory than a pair; if you have only one \square is more dependent on you. But after we had removed Juliet, poor Romeo looked so forlorn that we had not the heart to leave him behind.

A year or so later an advertisement suggested

that a lively, friendly lion cub was badly in need of a home and we fell for that. He got lost on the way, and, to comfort my partner after a fruitless journey to Nairobi, I bought Ting-a-Ling, a three-week-old lioness. We had been back only a short time when the missing lion, whom we called Kitgum, as that was where he had originally been caught, arrived.

Romeo and Juliet reduced the numbers of the poultry quite considerably, and did neither the furniture nor the garden any good, and when they were reinforced by Kitgum and Ting-a-Ling, life became a trifle hectic. Kitgum was about six months old when we got him. As they grew, we discovered that Ting and Juliet were much more reliable than Romeo and Kitgum.

The reason for the erratic behaviour of the male is, to put it bluntly, sex. Once the male grows up he becomes uncertain. If you give him a lioness he will go for you without warning the moment she comes in season, a state that occurs with disconcerting suddenness. If you deny him the comforts of a mate he becomes fractious. But if you keep your eyes open there is usually clear evidence how both lions and lionesses are feeling and what they are going to do.

The things to watch are the eyes, ears and tail. Normally the eyes are warm and friendly, but as soon as the animals get annoyed the pupils contract to pin-points of fire. The ears, once they begin to lie flat, much less get folded right back, are a second danger signal; normally they are erect. When the tail is swished from side to side, and finally is held aloft, it means the beast is about to charge or spring, depending on how close you are. At all times the lion is more demonstrative than the lioness and makes much more fuss of you.

Another discovery we made was that it seems impossible to house-train a male; it is true that we have never had a male at the age of three weeks, but from two months onwards they just refuse to co-operate. Ting-a-ling was completely house-trained; after the first two nights she never once did indoor things that are best done outside. She slept on my partner's bed for more than nine months, and she still liked her bottle when she was almost a year old.

During the war we had to move down to Nairobi and lion ran into trouble because we persisted in letting Romeo and Juliet roam about at will. Kitgum and Ting-a-ling were loose as much as they were shut in. One night Romeo and Juliet got out; our runs were never notable for their strength—and severely mauled a neighbour's cow, chased his hens and strolled into his kitchen. Juliet happened to come into season at the same time, and, since on these occasions food is of no interest to them, I was unable to entice them back. Even a basin of eggs, normally a certain enticement, failed,



"WHEN A LION REARS UP IN WELCOME YOU TOPPLE OVER UNLESS YOU ARE FULLY PREPARED" (Right) STRAW THINKS IT IS TIME TO GO INDOORS



ANNABELLA II IS A LITTLE UNCERTAIN

and Romeo threatened to tear down the netting that enclosed Kitgum and Ting-a-ling; I had visions of four lions being on the loose. The neighbour informed me in a curt note that if I did not get Romeo and Juliet back quickly he would shoot both, so, in order to save Juliet, I myself had the unpleasant job of shooting Romeo.

Later on our landlord was able to evict us. In our next house circumstances arose that caused us to break all our own rules. One of these was never to get ourselves in a situation that would lead to a show-down; but this one was forced on us. I had shot a zebra and, after cutting it up, had put it in a tree. One Sunday afternoon Kitgum was frolicking about while we were having tea. We had not finished our meal before a native shoved his head through the window and remarked that Kitgum, who by then was nearly fully grown, had climbed the tree and come down with a leg of zebra.

This was distressing news, for if he ate a lot he would be too lazy to move, and how would we then get him back into his run? It was essential to do this, as we had work to do in Nairobi, and if we left him out he would probably tour the countryside after dark, spreading alarm and despondency, or even get himself shot. Plainly it was necessary either to remove the leg from him, or him from it. Knowing that lions are great bluffers we decided to bluff him. In order to save time I refrained from trying to persuade my partner to let me deal with this situation on my own, and we each got hold of long, swishy branches, to which I added a sack over one arm. My idea was that if our bluff failed, and Kitgum charged, I would throw the sack in his face, which I calculated would put him off his stroke.

We walked towards Kitgum, shouting at him to go away, and at the same time swished our withies around our heads. Lions know perfectly well when they have done wrong; they sense this partly from your attitude but mainly from the tone of your voice. Kitgum looked at us and we noticed that he appeared worried. All three danger signals were missing as we started towards our intended target. There was an awkward moment when we wondered if he were going to rush us, but his eyes remained startled, not plain livid. When we were about 12 yards distant he turned and ran, as did we—on to the meat. We posted three boys as stops with instructions to beat paraffin tins, and Kitgum entered his run at the double. But it was not an experiment that we have any desire to repeat.

Later, we again had to move, and shortly afterwards Juliet gave birth to one very feeble cub. Everything had gone wrong, mainly owing to Kitgum's treatment of her. He treated her as badly as he treated Ting-a-ling well. He would even take meat to the latter, whereas he bullied poor Juliet, and I saw him clothe her in the tummy just before her cubs were born. I am sure that he was responsible for the balance of



ALEXANDER WAITS TO DABBLE HIS PAWS IN THE BATH

the litter being still-born and for my having to act as midwife to a lioness. Poor Juliet never recovered.

Meanwhile I bought a four-month-old cub from some South African soldiers who did not know what to do with him; they had let him get rickets and would feed him on beer and gin. He was called Dopey, and after a few months caught cat distemper and died in my arms just as I thought I had pulled him through; his heart gave out.

A few months later we were given another



"ANOTHER HELPING, PLEASE." ABK'S JULIET

cub which its owner assured us was a lioness, but the lioness turned out to be a lion. He, too, suffered from rickets, and although he was a nice little beast he was a great deal of trouble. At the time I was working in the control room of Cable and Wireless in the afternoons. One dreadful moment I remembered with Josssey, as he had been named, was when I looked up to see him in the studio with the main beam in his mouth. I used to take him with me and he generally snoozed at my feet. This was one of those moments when haste would have been fatal: I wandered into the studio and gently inserted my finger behind his eye teeth and tickled his tongue so that he let go of the lead. Having got it out I attracted his attention elsewhere and shooed him outside.

Shortly afterwards I was buying some petrol when I noticed a leopardsess in a cage that was much too small for her. Passing natives were making her life a burden, so I asked the owner if he would sell her; instead, he gave her to me. Annabella had been caught by an Arab at the coast and had obviously been teased ever since. She must have been about nine months old and was rather aloof, but we soon got her to become perfectly friendly. She was the essence of grace, and much more feline than any lion will ever be. Her eyes were colder than those of a lion, and she would look through you even more thoroughly than a lion does, which is saying a lot.

She and Josssey used to play together, but Annabella was so quick that he made rings around Josssey, and one day broke one of his hind legs. His bones are brittle from bad early feeding on beer and gin, but we managed to set the leg by keeping him half-doped for a week. His leg healed, but the damp weather during the rains seemed to affect him, so I gave him an overdose of the drug.

I also had to shoot Kitgum because obviously he would one day have killed a friend's child. We have noticed that both lions and leopards dislike children; other dialisks are fluttering frocks, the baggy trousers of Indian carpenters and most Africans. I would never trust any lion or leopard within range of a child. I think perhaps they dialisks the quick, sudden movements a child makes; also they have an instinctive desire to kill anything that is easy meat.

Ting produced a pair of fine male cubs and remained the nicest of all our lions. Nevertheless we were so badgered by neighbours and by our landlord that we decided to turn her and Annabella wild. The Belgians run their superb *Parc Nationale Albert* as a park should be run. They do not let people take rifles into it, so that it seemed to be the place for our experiment. Fortunately we knew the chief warden, and he was willing to take our pets. After a journey by train and lorry we tried to teach Ting to earn her living. She just looked at game with a pained expression that almost said "they run much too fast." Her attempts at her first kill boded ill for her future, as the sheep in question died partly from fright and partly from

went into ecstasies over any new scent my partner came across, rubbing their faces over and over her hair. Alexander used to go wild with joy over a rose. First he would sniff at it—and how!—then he would cuddle it, next he would begin licking it, hugging it to his soft chest; and finally he would eat it.

Being comparatively light, that is judging by lion standards, leopards are easier to handle. When a lion rears up on you in welcome you just topple over, being unable to stand the weight, unless you are leaning against a wall or are fully prepared. Leopards, we discovered love to jump on your back. Provided you know them

"COME ON! GET UP!"

asphyxiation. She did, however, manage to defend the carcass against the attentions of a bunch of hyenas.

She liked to spend the heat of the day lolling about in the tent. At night wild lions grunted all round, but she was totally disinterested and did not even deign to answer them. She slept between our beds. We had only a limited time at our disposal, and it seemed that as long as we were around she would not try her paw at hunting. In order that she would not feel too lame we left the tent as a background, and took Annabella to an area near the warden's house where he assured us there were a lot of leopards. She used to disappear by day, but always returned in the evening.

Annabella had always preferred men to women, and at times used to look at me with a most "goony" expression. Her chief drawback had been her thieving propensities. Both of us lost a lot of our clothes and we had said good-bye to every cushion at home; she used to take them out into the bushes and tear them into small pieces. On the other hand, she broke far fewer things in the house than the lions did.

Soon after our return to Nairobi we received two letters from the game warden. The first said that Annabella had repaid his hospitality—we had stayed with him and she had had the run of his house—by bringing back her boy friend;

between them they had killed two sheep waiting transport to Ting, the whole of his poultry and his cat. The second letter announced that Ting had been seen promenading with a handsome male.

For a time we were catless, and then I managed to bring in by a second leopardsse, Annabella II, who had been living at the Yellow Fever station at Entebbe. A month or two later a friend dropped a male leopard, Alexander, on to my shoulder with the remark that the owner had been posted away, and that she was sure we would be kind to it. Alexander was about a year old and was the funny man of the party.

Having had only three leopards, we cannot be as definite about them as about lions, but we consider that with them the male seems more reliable. They are also cleaner about the house, both Annabellas knew what an earth- or sandpan was for. One other thing we found out was that leopards are extremely scent conscious. All

ANNABELLA I DREAMS OF THE JUNGLE

and keep still it is all right, but if you are nervous and start to wriggle, out come the claws with purpose behind them. Annabella used to give me beautiful vibro massage on the back of my head.

At this time I was living in a flat with both the leopards; by day they inhabited a near-by cellar. I was already experiencing neighbour trouble, and worse, the municipal authorities began gunning for me, for there was a bye-law prohibiting the keeping of wild animals in Nairobi. I was laughing this off quite successfully when I was offered a six-month-old lion whose owner could not cart him round with him on safari. At first I resisted the temptation, and then I succumbed. He arrived one evening, and my partner said, "Really, this is the last straw," and Straw was called. He was a pet, although to start with he was a little too possessive even for a lion.

Luckily for me, my partner bought two hundred acres ten miles out of Nairobi, so that when the Municipality threatened me I had somewhere to park the cats. I had already had to abandon my first flat, I had come to live with the leopards because the occupant of the next-door flat was nervous. But before leaving the flat I found out that leopards seem to like water, particularly hot water. Alexander and Annabella used to dabble their front paws in the bath during my ablutions, and twice Annabella jumped clean into the bath with me.

As time went on my partner's house began to take shape, and Alexander and Straw took a great interest in it. Every week-end they leapt and crawled over it, balancing on scaffolding to see how much progress had been made during the week.

Poor Annabella was dead by this time. I had had to shoot her, not for anything she had done to us, but because of her exploits with others. She had rather badly clavved a native who happened to be passing by. The police prosecuted me for having wild animals not under proper control; I went to court three times, but each time the chief witness, the victim, was missing; he had returned to his reserve after getting out of hospital, and could not be located, so the charge against me was withdrawn.

We used to exercise our family on the velds little way outside Nairobi, much to the perplexity of sundry camels, cattle, sheep and

"WHY THAT DRIVER!"

goats. As our pets grew I went farther afield in order to get away from humanity, and one day two prisoners of war came a long way out of their line of march to see these strange beasts. One of them evidently realised what a fool he had been, and presumably exuded a strong scent of fear, for Annabella jumped straight on to his back, ripped it thoroughly, and then bit right through his arm. He developed gas gangrene, but recovered, and will have a superb story to tell of how he came by what should be a fine set of scars. I felt that if Annabella would persist in trying to rival Jack the Ripper I would be in real trouble one day so I had to shoot her.

When Alexander and Straw first met, the former was the heavier, and Straw was well aware of the fact. Had they had a real scrap Straw would not have had a chance owing to his comparative lack of weight. We were told that it would be impossible for a lion and leopard to live together once they grew up, but this we found was just another fallacy. They succeeded in getting along together very nicely.

Presently the Game Department asked me to go and confiscate five lion cubs which had been caught without a permit. I did so, and like every sort of a fool I could not resist buying three, whom we christened Bewitched, Bothered



THERE'S ROOM FOR ONE MORE

taste our blood when they have scratched us, and without exception they showed acute distaste for the stuff; the blood of a zebra or antelope they like a lot and it is good for them. They are prone to kick as is any human being, the skin and hair of game, or domestic stock is better than cod-liver oil as an antiricketts measure.

While in New York recently I was able to prove two of our theories about cats in general. One concerns their alleged fondness for human blood, and the other that some people have what I may call a way with the cat tribe. The Bronx Zoo authorities let me over the barrier that protects the animals from the public, and I made one great friend, a lioness. One day I put a finger too far into her mouth. She hit it fairly hard so that it bled. In order to retrieve that finger I put my other hand into her mouth and tickled her tongue, but in doing this the other one began bleeding. Having got both hands back on to my side of the bars I let the blood run a bit, and then wiped it over her mouth and nose; she at once wrinkled her nose in distaste and made no attempt to catch hold of either hand again.

On several occasions I scratched a black panther between the ears and tickled the chest of a snow leopard, and then turned my attention to one of the tigers. I did not know how one attracts a tiger, and the keeper told me to purr. I made various noises; presently it came and, later on, was most loving, licking my face in a most gentle manner.

We have been told that we must be heartless to let any lion of our own go to a zoo. Both we and the lions in question have been in a cleft stick. It was zoo or death for them. As all our lions have been obtained very young they have never known the alleged joys of freedom. When it comes down to hard facts how many human beings are really free? It is difficult to miss something you have never known. We do not believe that one could turn a male lion on to the veld because the other males would go for him, and

he, soft from easy living, would stand no chance, but a lioness, yes. So one either has the unpleasant job of shooting them, or of sending them to a zoo. Whatever the views on zoos may be, it will be a long time before they are abolished, if ever. Now that National Parks have been established in Africa wild life is safe, and Kenya will have the best parks of all later on.

At the moment we are devoid of cats because we happen to live very close to the small National Park just outside Nairobi. There is no denying the fact that domesticated lions attract wild ones. Having entered the settled area the wild ones come across cattle, horses, or pigs; they find these easy to kill and good to eat, and naturally repeat their exploits, and so have to be destroyed. Life without any of these large felines seems dull, so we have turned our minds to tigers. It will be fun to have a tiger in Africa. From what I saw of them in zoos their eyes seem a cross between those of a lion and those of a leopard; from what I have heard their characters also seem midway between the two. In any case, it will be an interesting experiment and gives us something to look forward to.



"SHALL WE BE FRIENDS?"

TING-A-LING'S FIRST BATH

and Bewildered. Bewildered was a male and the others were females.

Not long afterwards the National Park people asked me to get rid of Straw because of his attraction to wild lions, and I managed to sell him to the London Zoo, where he has proved a great draw. Before he went we made a film in which he and Alexander were the stars, while the Three B's, as they were known, took secondary parts. Straw took to developing a most mischievous look in his eye, and during the making of the film cracked one of my partner's ribs.

As the three B's went on growing I merely waited for another request, this time to shift them. After a lot of effort I managed to persuade the London Zoo to accept them as a gift and they arrived in grand style.

One morning they were in arriving, and an African in order that he should get away dead on time, let Alexander out before we arrived. For over two years he had never gone any distance save towards the house, but this day, finding no one at home, he wandered off—quite fatter ourselves to look for us. He reached a neighbour's house and was promptly shot, unnecessarily in our opinion. Alexander I had determined to keep; he was incredibly tame and never hurt anyone—much.

A question we are always asked is what weapon we carry when we are with our cats. The answer is none, as we have no intention of showing a lack of confidence in ourselves. Another question is, "How far can you trust them?" The answer to that one is: "As far as you can trust any human being." Chance may produce the temptation for which either species will fall; pedestals are brittle, anyway.

A popular fallacy is that once a lion tastes human blood it immediately tears you into small pieces. We have made every lion and leopard

NICHOLAS HILLIARD and ISAAC OLIVER

By DENYS SUTTON

(Left) 1.—HENRY VIII
Lent by H.M. The King

(Right) 2.—EDWARD VI
Lent by H.M. The King

(Below) 3.—A SELF-PORTRAIT OF
HILLIARD AT THE AGE OF THIRTY
Victoria and Albert Museum

The portraits on this page are all by Nicholas Hilliard.



IN an article in COUNTRY LIFE of May 30 the hope was expressed that the study of Elizabethan painting would receive an increased degree of attention and that an attempt would be made to illuminate the artistic tendencies at what was one of the supreme moments in our literary history.

An excellent opportunity for broadening our knowledge of Elizabethan art is now provided by the exhibition of miniatures by Nicholas Hilliard (1547-1619) and Isaac Oliver (c. 1565-1617), which will be on view at the Victoria and Albert Museum (Exhibition Road entrance) for about the next two months. It contains over a hundred miniatures by Hilliard and eighty miniatures by Oliver, as well as the only two known drawings by the former and a selection of drawings by the latter. Hilliard's work as a goldsmith is represented by the casts of the great seal of England, which he designed for Queen Elizabeth in 1584, and by the lovely Armada Gold Badge which is thought to be by him. These are shown against a background of furniture, embroidery, and *objets d'art*, chosen to suggest the spirit of the age and to indicate some of the other forms of Elizabethan art. The catalogue of the exhibition, which has been written by Mr. Graham Reynolds, is admirably produced; it is in the nature of a monograph on the artists concerned.

Some of the miniatures exhibited have been lent by His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands; others come from private collections, including those of the Dukes of Buccleuch and Portland; many of



them have never been previously seen by the public. They succeed in giving a memorable view of one of the most characteristic and delightful forms of Elizabethan art. With its utilitarian yet often symbolical nature, the miniature suggests, too, much of the spirit of the age, particularly that of the Court.

As we regard these mementos of handsome courtiers and lovely ladies we can almost hear the soft sound of the virginals and the charming concords of the Elizabethan lyric. But the exhibition is not only a delight to the eye; it is an exact contribution to our knowledge and understanding of the period. The personalities of Hilliard and Oliver can be clearly observed, with their similarities and their essential differences in style and feeling. Both were portraitists, both used the same medium, both were goldsmiths by origin, yet how different is one from the other.

Hilliard was both a craftsman and a psychologist. He had all the contemporary love of splendour, seeking to catch the rich reflections of fine jewels in the colours of his minia-

tures. His sense of decoration is exquisite. But he not only placed his sitters against the background of their age, as in his celebrated portrait of a Youth leaning against a Tree; he was able to suggest character and personality. In his directness and insight he stemmed from the tradition of Holbein, though his art owed much to the French. The delicate moulding of the features in his portrait of Edward VI (Fig. 2) suggests the refinement of Clouet; and he was not without admirers across the Channel. His own contribution was definite and personal. He had a robust and searching way of looking into the minds of his sitters. His portrait of Henry VIII (Fig. 1), though necessarily not from life, is a proper image of the man and as forceful as any of Holbein's large-scale paintings; the proud curve of the eyebrows suggests the voluptuousness and rapacity of the Renaissance prince.

Hilliard was single-minded in his approach: his art is a variation on only a few themes. Yet each portrait is differently treated, differently characterised. At first sight, a case of his



4.—QUEEN ELIZABETH
Victoria and Albert Museum



5.—GEORGE CLIFFORD, THIRD EARL OF CUMBERLAND
The National Maritime Museum, Greenwich

(Left) 6.—MRS. OLIVER
Lent by the Duke of Portland

(Right) 7.—DR. DONNE
Lent by H.M. The King

(Below) 8.—LUCY HARINGTON,
COUNTESS OF BEDFORD
Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge

The portraits on this page are all by Isaac Oliver.



miniatures might appear to provide only a generalised view of his sitters with the same faces, the same costumes, and the same social status. On closer inspection, however, each figure emerges with his or her personality defined. Some of his portraits naturally have common features, the shaping of his women's eyebrows being often identical; but each is the portrait of a different person. Stylistically, his miniatures derived from the tradition of Court painting; many are doubtless idealised and belong to the international manner of the "romantic" portrait. They possess that love of elegance and decoration which distinguishes the word play of the early Shakespeare. A friend of Sir Philip Sidney, Sir Christopher Hatton and Sir Robert Cecil, Hilliard moved in Court circles. As the Queen's limner and goldsmith he naturally paid tribute to the Queen by portraying an idealised version of her beauty (Fig. 4).

For all that, however, his portraits present a true picture of their age and of the personality of his sitters; indeed, as so many portraits do, they present the image that appeared to the artist's

mind and not only that desired by his patron. His celebrated portrait of George Clifford, third Earl of Cumberland (Fig. 5) may have all the trappings of the grand official portrait, anticipating the idealised style of Van Dyck; yet in the fine miniature of his father the approach is realistic: the careful eyes and the prickly beard are duly noted.

Within the compass of his art he could suggest, too, the tempestuous personality of Drake and, as in his portrait of An Unknown Man against a Background of Flames, sound a deeper note of melancholy and passion. He responded to good looks and to elegance, and some of his most successful miniatures are portraits of youths and young men which show that, in the very years when Shakespeare was composing his sonnets, Hilliard mirrors one characteristic aspect of the Elizabethan age—it's admiration of the male virtues. His own self-portrait (Fig. 3) shows a man of great sensibility with a rather mocking sense of humour which enables us to understand well his belief in the aristocratic nature of his art. "I wish it were so," he once declared, "that none should meddle with limning but gentlemen alone."

Oliver has the same sense of courtliness and was a shrewd judge of character. Yet he lacked something of Hilliard's direct linearism and precise delicacy. Belonging to a later generation, he was concerned to rival the history painters of the contemporary scene.

More eclectic than Hilliard's, his work reflects the influence of Italy and the Low Countries. The portrait of Mrs. Oliver (Fig. 6) with her comfortable, comely features and of a little girl with her serious, almost puzzled, expression possess the homely virtues of a Dutch picture.

Yet he could turn from this note of domesticity to execute the delicious and romantic portrait said to be of Sir Philip Sidney (Fig. 9)

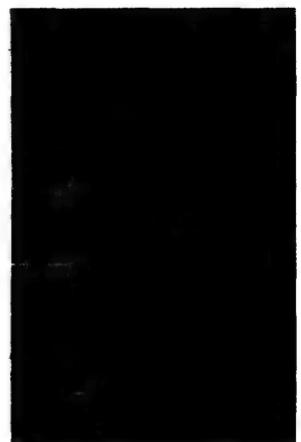
or show Lord Herbert of Cherbury with all the aristocratic elegance of his time. His art reflects something of the tension of the Jacobean age: his portrait of Richard Sackville, third Earl of Dorset (Fig. 10) fits the contemporary description of him that he was "a man of spirit and talent, but a licentious spendthrift." His eyes was alert and in his fascinating portrait of Lucy Harington, Countess of Bedford, the noble patroness of Ben Jonson, Drayton, Chapman and Donne he did not hesitate to depict her long nose and her almost melancholy look (Fig. 8).

Her beauty is that of the spirit rather than of the flesh. He was able to assess, too, in his portrait of Dr. Donne, with its piercing eyes, the poet's own qualities of self-analysis and biting comment (Fig. 7).

"Rare beauties are (even as diamonds are) found among the savage Indians) more commonly found in this isle of England than elsewhere," wrote Hilliard. Together he and Oliver present a vivid and understanding picture of the Elizabethan age, with its passion and its vitality, its exuberance and its sense of beauty. As one looks at this array of miniatures portraying the great figures of a great age, Queen Elizabeth's noble words take on an added majesty: "Though God hath raised me high, yet this I count the glory of my crown: that I have reigned with your loves."



9.—PORTRAIT OF A YOUNG MAN, SAID TO BE SIR PHILIP SIDNEY. Lent by H.M. The King



10.—RICHARD SACKVILLE, THIRD EARL OF DORSET. Victoria and Albert Museum



1.—SOUTH FRONT AND FORECOURT

JULIANS, HERTFORDSHIRE—I

THE HOME OF THE HON. MRS. P. PLEYDELL-BOUVERIE

Originally built by William Stone about 1605 and reconstructed about 1715, the house and gardens were thoroughly but sympathetically reconstructed 1937-39

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

IN the old days, many people dreamed of finding an old neglected house, restoring it beautifully, filling it with lovely things, and surrounding it with the ideal garden. To realise their dream, however imperfectly,

brought much happiness to numerous individuals and was not without benefit to the community as a whole that, during the preceding half century, the process considerably added to the country's wealth of natural

and historical beauty, and helped to maintain the traditional applied arts. Many of these restorations were little masterpieces of derivative design, gardening, and home-making. Minor arts, perhaps, and tending towards eclecticism rather than originality; but of

educative value as expressions of informed taste, upon which rests, in the aggregate, the standard of visual taste in the nation as a whole, which, in turn, has economic value expressed as exports, visible and invisible.

Julians, in the arable country near Buntingford, is a highly finished example of this process that might be called house-lifting—did not that combination of words have other implications. It is an old house—originally built in Jacobean times and reconstructed during the 18th century. But its present appearance, setting, and internal character are barely ten years old. As we see them to-day, they are due to Mrs. Pleydell-Bouverie, who has made many changes since she came to live here in 1940, and during whose time the garden has come to maturity. But the actual restoration of the place was done during 1937-39 by Col. Reginald Cooper, D.S.O., whose remarkable flair for discovering and resurrecting derelict houses has already been illustrated at Cold Ashton Manor (COUNTRY LIFE, February 14 and 21, 1925) and Cothay (COUNTRY LIFE, October 22 and 29, 1927).

It adjoins the village of Rushden, was at one time known as Rushden (or Riseden) Place, and stands in a little park through which a drive approaches the east side of the house. There, on the left of Fig. 1, a modest court is formed by two ranges of outbuildings and the side of the house which is generally entered thence. This arrangement would scarcely call for notice did it not exactly correspond to that shown in the engraving in Chauncy's *Herfordshire*, about 1700, dedicated to "Mrs. Penelope Stone relict of Thos. Stone of Riseden, Esq." but depicting an apparently quite different building. In those days it had five gables, two triangular and three curly, with two tiers of large mullioned windows and an attic window in each, except in the middle gable where a mildly classical entrance door was surmounted by two double-light windows. The outline of the roof, however, is the same as now; there was the porch on the west side and similar outbuildings; and a forecourt is shown with ball-topped piers to an axial gateway, very like the one standing there now.

2.—LOOKING INTO THE FORECOURT





3—CLAIRES-VOIE AND ENTRANCE GATE, FROM THE FRONT DOOR



4—THE SIDE GATE



5—TUBS ON THE TERRACE



6.—THE EAST SIDE



7.—THE NORTH SIDE SHOWS SIGNS OF THE ORIGINAL HOUSE



8.—THE GATE OF THE WALLED GARDEN

This Jacobean house had been built by William Stone who, with his brother Sir Richard, bought "the farm house called Julianis" in 1603 from Edward Newport, of Sandon. The Newports had apparently acquired it after the Dissolution as part of a property of Wardens' Abbey given to that monastery by its founder, Walter de l'Espec, in the 12th century. The Stones were of an old Huntingdonshire family, and their father, John, had been a Sergeant-at-Law noted as an authority on bankruptcy. This William Stone is stated definitely to have built Julianis. His son Thomas married Penelope, daughter of Sir Stephen Soame, and died 1696, leaving three daughters. It was his widow who is named in Chauncy's plate. Of the daughters, Penelope married Adolphus Metekerke, one of the family of Dutch Protestant *émigrés* who were living at Julianis when the Trollopes—Thomas Adolphus, Anthony, Henry, with their father and mother—used to stay with "Uncle and Aunt Metekerke" about 1820. The father at that time expected to inherit Julianis, and the eldest son afterwards drew in his memoirs a delightful picture of Julianis in the old Metekerke's time.

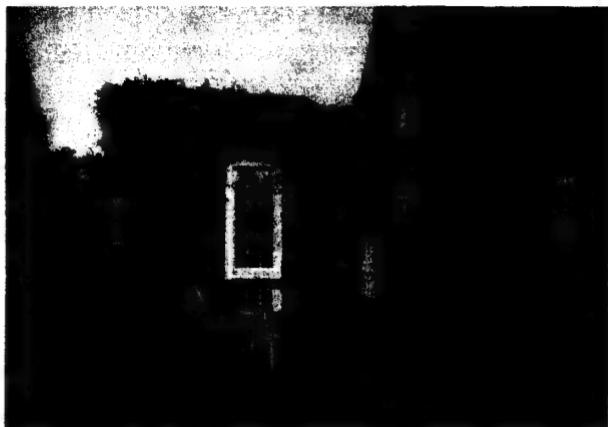
It was probably Mrs. Penelope Metekerke who had married her consort in 1699 and lived till 1746, leaving a large family, who transformed Julianis from a Jacobean to a Georgian house. The only external traces of this reconstruction are to be seen on the north front (Fig. 7) in the miscellaneous assortment of windows and patched brickwork. No doubt the upper storey was then added in place of attic dormers; and the walls of the other fronts were given their existing coat of grey stucco to hide the rearrangement of their fenestration. On the entrance front the existing sash windows were put in but the pediment and window surrounds are modern.

These and all the features that give character to the present elevation are due to Col. Cooper. He substituted the old red tiles for slates on the roof, put up the belfry and clock, introduced the cartouche with the arms of Metekerke into the pediment, provided all the windows with Portland stone entablatures, gave the front its cornice, substituted the present front door entablature for the old one, which was slightly smaller and which he moved to the east side (Fig. 6). He also formed the forecourt, with wrought-iron *claire-voie* and gateway (Fig. 3), the latter a contemporary example hung between suitably designed piers. This was intended as the principal entrance from a gravelled sweep centred on a sundial, which has lately been removed and the gravel turfed. The brick side-walls of the court are pierced with two lesser gates (Fig. 4) giving on to the paved space immediately against the house, on which stand tubs of hydrangeas and scented geraniums (Fig. 5).

The result of this most sympathetic and indeed scholarly treatment was to transform what was evidently the dull if serviceable residence of a small squire into an exquisite pastiche on an early Georgian theme. Few but those otherwise informed would suspect that here is not the authentic retreat of some *Alcander* or *Belinda* of polished yet tender tastes, exiled from the Court at Kensington; or possibly the diminutive yet elegant *Madame d'Amour* of an elder statesman of Queen Anne's Cabinets. For there is about it just that hint of fantasy—stressed perhaps by the belfry, so invaluable in giving height to the rather low facade—which raises a doubt whether any Hertfordshire squire of Fielding's time would in fact have housed himself so prettily.

Yet there is no reason why he should not have, nor have added a large ballroom, music-room, or orangery to the side of the little

house. The actual *raison d'être* of the long single-storeyed wing seen on the right of Figs. 1 and 6 was the personal need felt by Col. Cooper for one large room, for music, and to contain a set of tapestries and other possessions too large for the already existing rooms. During the period between the wars when the scale of living as compared to thirty years ago was already contracting, many people took the view that living in a few small rooms was agreeable enough provided that one large room was available for occasions. A number of new houses were designed on that principle, and in Paris it was even adopted into the planning of better-class flats—a system that at one time it seemed possible might be practised in this country. Indeed, if ever again a standard of living above the minimum is possible, the small house or flat incorporating a large room for occasional use is undoubtedly the ideal to aim at. But in the case of Julians the origin of the big room goes back to Col. Cooper's occupation of Cothay, an early medieval manor house of limited accommodation. After Cothay was illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE an identical room to this one was added, for the reasons given, which, when the house was sold, the new owner determined to convert into bedrooms, etc. The big sash windows



9.—THE NORTH TERRACE



10.—THE OLD STEWPOND

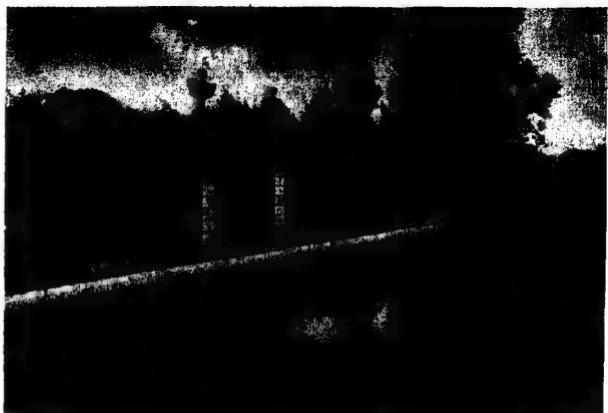
effectually attracts the eye away from the house in this direction. At the farther end a fine old gateway surmounted by urns was set (Fig. 8) leading to a swimming-pool (Fig. 11).

The asymmetry of the house was ingeniously discounted by placing a circular fountain pool in the lawn on this side (Fig. 7), taking as the axis of the lay-out the staircase window, through which one gets a *coup d'œil* of the whole when coming downstairs. The fountain also gave the lateral axis for the main walk of the garden extending westwards, which will be illustrated in a further article. In that direction there are several components of the old garden, including a stewpond and a small brick building, possibly the remains of a dovecote (Fig. 10), which have been incorporated into the larger new design. Against the house a paved sunk terrace was made (Fig. 9), a cool spot to sit in summer and to look up the lawn enclosed by rose-draped walls.

(To be continued)

and internal fittings thus became available for re-use, and it so was possible to reproduce the room exactly at Julians. In each location it was a very handsome apartment, with five lofty windows (in this case a sixth in one end, Fig. 9), coved ceiling, a full length Lely portrait surrounded by carving above the chimney-piece, and the great softly hued Brussels tapestries. At Julians its extent also served to balance the outbuildings to the east, as seen from the front. But it was always a room added for particular requirements and, since her acquisition of the house during the war, Mrs. Pleydell-Bouverie has used it for storage, and it is unfurnished.

It was wisely decided not to try to regiment the undisciplined north side of the house where the big staircase window, the bay window of the dining-room, and the old yew hedge screening the outbuildings made any prospect of achieving a balanced design, short of complete rebuilding, out of the question. Besides, the long blind wall of the big room, though clothed with climbing plants and shrubs, added to the difficulties. The ground slopes up gradually from the house, and attention was given rather to laying out upon it a walled and terraced formal garden which



11.—THE SWIMMING-POOL BEYOND THE WALLED GARDEN

ENGLAND'S LAST DEER FOREST

Written and Illustrated by G. KENNETH WHITEHEAD

MOST people associate the wild red deer with the Highlands of Scotland, or the moorland wastes of Devon and Somerset; yet in the heart of the English Lake District lies one of the most compact little deer forests that it has been my good fortune to stalk on. This forest is known as the Forest of Martindale, and, although it harbours the majority of the Lakeland deer, it does not hold them all, for beasts in various numbers may be met throughout almost the whole of the north-eastern part of the Lake District.

Deer are no newcomers to this district, for there are plenty of records, in the form of antler relics, etc., to show that even during the Roman occupation they were present in large numbers throughout not only Cumberland but also Westmorland. Macpherson in his *Fauna of the Lakeland* states: "The area occupied by the Red deer at one time included almost the whole of the Lakeland, from Furness and Mallerstang Forest to the Scottish Border. The Forests which survived into the Elizabethan period were those of Inglewood, Ennerdale, Walton in Cumberland, and Martindale in Westmorland."

Of these four forests only Martindale now remains as a true deer forest. Stags travel far and wide, especially during the rut when in search of hinds, and although a wandering beast may still occasionally be seen on one or two of the other old forests, they have long since ceased to be their regular haunts.

It must be well over a century and a half since Ennerdale and Wasdale ceased to be deer forests. In those days the whole of this wild, hilly country was known as Copeland Forest, and at the beginning of the 16th century it belonged to the Earl of Northumberland. Deer hunting had been plentiful then, for the Earl's *Common Household Book* records that in Cumberland alone he possessed no fewer than 1,463 head of red and fallow deer. This figure included those deer that were enclosed in his various parks, but in Wasdale alone the number of wild deer was stated to be about 230. The price of venison in those good old days hardly bears comparison with to-day's controlled price of one and eighteenpence per pound, for only five to ten shillings was normally paid for a whole stag, according to its size.

Walton Forest, which stretched along the Border Country, ceased to be a chase even earlier than did Copeland Forest, and from the scanty records available it would appear that it was much poached by Scottish hunters, who

stepped across the Border not only to kill the deer but also to cut down timber for their homes.

Inglewood was probably the finest of all the Lakeland forests, and earned the title of the Royal Forest. It was bounded both by red and fallow deer, and stretched along the west bank of the Eden from near Penrith almost to Carlisle. Although much of it was enclosed and well guarded by the royal foresters, it, too, suffered much from poaching. Moreover, the "shooting tenants" appeared to pay little regard to either the seasons or the number of game permitted to be killed, for, writing in 1892, Macpherson states: "The Scottish hunters were not over-scrupulous about limiting their game to the number of head allotted to them by grant, but any excess was noted and reported by the foresters to the English King." Thus in 1533 Edward III, at the request of his cousin Edward de Balias, granted pardon to the nobles and others who had hunted with him and had slain fourteen stags, two bucks, eleven hinds and sixteen red deer calves in summer, and twenty-one bucks and does and seventeen fawns in winter."

This royal pardon can hardly be said to have produced the desired effect, for two years later Edward III again granted a pardon to the same parties, who on this occasion had killed "nineteen harts, fourteen hinds, seventeen calves, two bucks, four soursels, thirteen does, a pricket and two fawns." It would appear from the entries of this mixed bag that the hunters of yore cared little about the age or sex of their quarry. A sould or sarel was a fallow buck in his third year, while a pricket generally indicated a two-year-old fallow buck, but was used also for a red deer stag of similar age.

The exact date on which Inglewood ceased to be a deer forest is a little uncertain, but it



"NADDIE FOREST HELD SOME VERY FINE STAGS"

was probably about 1820, when the last stag is supposed to have been killed by Edward Hasell's deer hounds.

To-day, then, only Martindale remains as a true English deer forest. For a long time it has been owned by the Hasell family, who live not far away at Dalemain, but for about twenty years during and after the 1914-18 war it was leased by the late Lord Lonsdale, who carried out several major improvements, such as building a road to a shooting bungalow that he erected near Rampgill.

The average tourist to the Lake District will not see Martindale, for it can be reached by car only by one's taking the Howtown road from Pooley Bridge, and then continuing on by a rather rough track to the shooting-lodge in Rampgill. Roughly speaking, Martindale is bounded on the west and north by Ullswater and on the east by the long narrow ridge known as High Street. The centre part consists of the major valleys of Rampgill and Bannerdale, which are separated from each other by a round hill called the Nab.

As a forest Martindale is unenclosed, and consequently the deer are free to wander over a wide area. A favourite spot for finding deer during the summer and early autumn is between High Street and Hawes Water, which now supplies part of the Manchester Corporation's water requirements. This strip of land, as well as the remainder of the country surrounding Hawes Water, belongs to the Lowther estates, but an arrangement exists whereby the Martindale stalkers may stalk any beasts seen between the lake and High Street around Kidsty and Whelton Craggs, and it is near these crags that the first stags of the season are often killed.

Just south of Whelton lie Riggindale and Mardale. Both are favourite summer grounds for stags, which, however, soon move out into Rampgill or Bannerdale once their antlers are clean and velvet.

The stalking rights in Riggindale and Mardale, as well as on the east side of Hawes Water, which includes the Naddie Forest, are retained by the Lowther estate, and on a number of occasions before the war I had the privilege of stalking this ground. About 1926, when Major Cropper rented the stalking, Naddie Forest held some very fine stags, some of which,

on reaching the larder, would turn the scales at over twenty-four stone, while many heads, which often included royals, measured over a yard in length. To-day, unfortunately, these monarchs of Naddle are gone, and one seldom sees a beast east of Hawes Water. Their disappearance from Naddle dates back to the early thirties, when the Manchester Corporation commenced their damming operations on Hawes Water.

Not only around Hawes Water, however, has the Manchester Corporation almost evicted the red deer. At Thirlmere, which is also a source of water supply for that city, the Corporation has carried out extensive forestry planting along both shores of the lake. Deer love trees, particularly forestry plantations, and it was not long before these woods harboured a fair stock of red deer.

Yet up to about 1936, provided the deer did not become too numerous, the Corporation protected rather than destroyed them, and it was a grand experience during October to hear the stags roaring their challenge across the lake, from Swirlwood Gill to Raven Crag, or from the top of Whalside Gill to Fether Crag. But to-day October brings no such pleasant voices, for although there may always be an odd stag passing through, stags are loath to talk to themselves, so the woods are silent.

On the west side of Ullswater the National Trust own a small enclosed forest of approximately 750 acres known as Gowbarrow Park. Before the war this forest held a fair stock of both red and fallow deer, but to-day their numbers are sadly reduced, and when I was last on the ground I saw but one small "staggle" where ten years ago I might have seen fifty.

TO HOYLAKE

THE time of the Open Championship is coming round again; it begins on the last day of June, and already I am beginning to bubble at the thought of setting off for Hoylake. The journey there is not superficially so romantic as that to St. Andrews. There is not the thrill of the night journey, nor the waking in another country; there is no first sight of the links from the train, as there is after leaving Guardbridge.¹ But romance consists in the transformation of external or prosaic things by internal excitement, and for myself I rate this journey to Hoylake very high in the romantic category.

I love Euston, ■ only because once upon a time it was the gateway to Wales; I love the tremendous and darkling view as the train crosses from Runcorn to Widnes with the ship canal far below; I love the last lap between Birkenhead Park and Hoylake itself. I believe, as a fact, that one no longer changes at the Park, but I still do so in imagination, and the names of the little final stations, Moreton and Bidston and Meols (I think these are right though the order may be wrong), have a homecoming ring in my ears.

Then there comes the drive from the station to the club-house, through suburban streets of no outward attraction whatever but sanctified by many memories of many tours, and the first view of the course from the windows of the big room upstairs. I like to picture myself arriving about 5 o'clock and then after a hasty tea dawdling out in the evening for a few shots. And I have really some right to call this ecstatic home-coming because a kind friend of mine some years ago discovered a copy whereby I could be some sort of a member of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club, a distinction which I prize extremely. So I think of the club as my club and the links as my links, which in Mr. Pecksniff's words "is likewise very soothin'."

It is eleven years since there was an Open Championship at Hoylake. Padgham won there in his *swans' mirthless* of 1936, after a desperate struggle, with Adams hunting him to the last putt, and that seems now a very long time ago. I thought at the time that never before had so severe an examination been set in golf. Since then I have seen St. Andrews slow and heavy and

This depressing story could be repeated for other parts where once upon a time, not many years ago, both red and fallow deer more than held their own. There is no doubt that during the war the deer in England had a bad time.

Meat was very scarce, firearms were made available to a large section of the community who would never have been blooded to the chase had not a deer put in an appearance during a Home Guard exercise, and both post officers and forestry trappers gave them little respite.

Harried right and left, the persecuted deer returned to their ancestral home of Martindale in the belief that they would find sanctuary there. In normal circumstances, such respite would have been obtained, but in 1941 the Military invaded Martindale, and for the next few years it was the H.Q. of an O.C.T.U. unit from Catterick, so that little peace awaited the deer.

To-day the young officers receive their training elsewhere, but Martindale, unfortunately, is still a military training area, the unit being quartered in hutsments at Glenridding. It is to be hoped that England's last deer forest will soon be "demobilised." Under the able management and protection of Major Hasell and his Scottish stalker there is little doubt that the deer will recover their pre-war numbers. Their policy has always been to shoot only inferior beasts and leave the best for breeding, while in Scotland, unfortunately, yearly tenancy of forests results in the opposite. The result at Martindale is that the deer generally are heavier than the Scottish stags, with good thick quality horn. The average weight is 300 stone, clean,

but beasts weighing over 20 stone are not exceptional.

Gowbarrow Park too, with careful nursing, will one day recover. But elsewhere the picture is not so promising, for the War Agricultural Committees and the Forestry Commission can effectively curb or control the enthusiasm of their post officers and trappers, to most of whom thinning out apparently means obliterating the future of our wild deer elsewhere is seriously threatened. No one can deny that deer in uncontrolled numbers do damage. They do, but in a number of instances this damage has been much exaggerated, and in many the damage to young trees has been caused by rabbits and not by deer at all. Two years ago Mr. John McNab wrote: "Red deer entirely ignore young fir trees. Last summer, eight hinds, afterwards joined by a calf or two, took up their abode in a 10-acre block planted in 1941-42. They were constantly there for three months and not one single tree was even mouthing. True they sat down on a matter of half a dozen, but this was on a hillock, where there was nothing to speak of anyhow."

Stags, I know, are fond of rubbing their antlers among the branches of trees, and for preference, I think, like hard woods to conifers. This in itself is damaging both to the trees and to any case put up in their defence. It is all a question of whether we want a quiet, lifeless countryside with only the wind to break the stillness, or are prepared to suffer a little grace to a few wanderers from Martindale and elsewhere to enter again those places that have long since ceased to echo their challenging call. Most countries abroad preserve their indigenous fauna. Why should not England also?

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

one major one: the Championship Cup, which has now grown all too well accustomed to sojourns overseas, left our shores for the first time. The iconoclast who dared to win was not an American but that great French golfer, Arnaud Massy.

* * *

It was a fierce struggle, played for the most part in a typical Hoylake wind such as Massy, bred in windy Biarritz, loved, and I have just been refreshing my memory of the scores in Mr. Farrar's book on the Royal Liverpool Club. There were only four scores under 80 in the first round, sufficient testimony to the weather; Massy led with 78 and Taylor, who was destined to hunt him hard, took 79. In the afternoon Taylor repeated his 79, and Massy took 81 to lead by a single shot. Next morning Taylor was out early, and with 38 each way returned 76. Massy had a dreadful start, sixteen for the first three holes and total 42, but then, after a great 36 hole left him still within striking distance, a stroke behind J. H. In the last round Taylor had in his turn an early calamity: he took seven at the third hole; he played well afterwards, but 80 gave Massy his chance and he took it. The Frenchman was out in 38, started home well, and after the Rusches left with twenty-five shots for the last five holes to win.

The Hoylake finish has always been a stern one, but the Royal was a mild hole by comparison in those days, and Massy had only to be reasonably steady. This he was except for a six at the Lake (the 15th) and he was left with a six at the 18th to win. He banged his ball safely over the cross-bunker and over the green, chipped back, got his five and won with a stroke to spare. It was so historic an occasion that I hope these details may not be found too musty by a later generation.

Possibly to the relief of that generation, I have left myself no room for Taylor's *clever* shot to the Briars through the wind and rain, nor Hagen's great second to the Royal, with two fours to beat Ernest Whitcombe, nor Bobby's awful seven at the Far, so nobly made amends for, nor Adams's putt for three that was all round the hole to tie with Padgham's. Doubtless things just as terrific will happen this time, and I hope to be hovering between the Cop and the Rusches to see some of them.

THE FARRER COLLECTION OF ENGLISH SILVER—II

PAUL DE LAMERIE

By A. G. GRIMWADE



(Left to right) 1.—QUEEN ANNE TEA KETTLE, 1713. 2.—GEORGE I SIDEBOARD DISH, 1722. Made for Thomas Western of Rivenhall. 3.—GEORGE I CUP AND COVER, 1723. The arms are those of Philip Yorke, Baron Hardwicke

In the first article I suggested that the Farrer Collection might be compared in its composition to a musical concerto with Paul De Lamerie as soloist. To support this it is only necessary to point out that out of some one hundred and sixty items in the Collection no fewer than forty-three are from Lamerie's hand, counting pairs and sets as one item. This might well seem an overwhelming attention given to the work of one craftsman, were it not that Lamerie in his forty years' working life ran the whole gamut of technical expression in the silversmith's craft, and exemplifies every possible phase of decoration in pieces of every description from the simplest salt cellar to the most elaborate ornamental cup or salver. It is, therefore, only fair that one of three articles on the Farrer Collection should be devoted to this superb craftsman.

The work of this master was so highly thought of in his day as to elicit from the writer of his obituary notice in 1751 the sentence, "He was particularly famous in making fine

ornamental Plate, and has been very instrumental in bringing that Branch of Trade to the Perfection it is now in." With the change of fashion to plain styles at the end of the 18th century we may assume his work became slowly forgotten, and it was not until the revived interest in old English plate began after the middle of last century that he again came into public esteem. Little was known of the man himself till the publication in 1893 of the late P. A. S. Phillips's fine monograph, which, from his painstaking researches into Lamerie's antecedents and working career, gave substance to this great craftsman, who had in the past been so neglected that he has no place even in the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

We now know that Paul De Lamerie, as he always styled himself, was born in 1688 at Bois-le-Duc, or Hertogenbosch, in Holland, where he was baptised on April 14. His father, a French Huguenot of the petty nobility, Paul Souchay de la Merie, had served as an officer under William III of Orange, and appears to

have come to England about 1691, when the future silversmith was only three years old. It is, therefore, fair to claim Lamerie as an Englishman, at least by upbringing, if not by birth. In 1703 at fifteen he was apprenticed to Pierre Platet, as mentioned in the first article, and having served his term was "admitted a Free man of the City by servitude through the Goldsmiths' Company in February 1712," and commenced working in Windmill Street. He married in 1716, and in 1738 moved his premises to Gerrard Street, where he remained working till his death in 1751. Such are the bare outlines of his life, which are disclosed to greater extent by Mr. Phillips.

Lamerie's earliest pieces in the Farrer Collection are a pair of plain trencher salt cellars of 1712, a modest beginning, made only a few months after his admission as a free man of the Goldsmiths' Company. By the next year he was in the full strength of his powers, as is shown by a magnificent tea kettle, stand and lamp of 1713 (Fig. 1). Although on the traditional lines of other craftsmen of the period, there are signs of individuality in the somewhat unusual double scrolls of the legs and the fine lines of the spout, which make it a piece of great attraction.

The next piece illustrated at once bears witness to Lamerie's great versatility. This is a sideboard dish of 1722 (Fig. 2), a superb piece of decorative plate. The boldly gadrooned rim is the most unusual outline, the inner border of shells and trelliswork in flat chasing is of the highest quality, and the delicacy of the engraved medallion with its arms in the centre is beyond reproach. The arms are those of Thomas Western of Rivenhall, Essex.

The cup and cover of 1723 seen in Fig. 3 is one of three by Lamerie in the Collection. The others date from 1720. The example illustrated is remarkable for the intricate and finely chased strapwork surmounted by plumed masks of Indian feeling on alternate straps. The junction of foot and body is perhaps a little unhappy, but this is a small point in a fine decorative piece. The arms are those of Philip Yorke as Baron Hardwicke, who was so created in 1733, and consequently must be of about ten years later date than the cup itself.

The following year 1724 saw the production of what is undoubtedly the crowning achievement, and, indeed, one of the most outstanding of Lamerie's creations that have survived. This is the sumptuous toilet service of twenty-eight pieces made to the order of the Rt. Hon. George Treby, as a wedding gift to his wife, Charity, daughter and co-heir of Roger Hale, whom he married on February 2, 1724/5. To illustrate adequately this fine service would require all the space available for the whole



4.—PART OF THE TREBY TOILET SERVICE, 1724. Two powder flasks and a helmet-shaped ewer. Two bowls and covers and one of three caskets

article, and I select, therefore, a small group to represent the whole (Fig. 4). The service displays a great range of decorative treatment in chasing and engraving, and the finish is of the highest quality.

Outstanding in this respect is the chasing of the panels on the caskets, of which I illustrate the smallest of three, and on the powder flasks, also shown. The mirror which forms the centrepiece of the service is enclosed in a scroll border of lovely delicacy, enriched with shells, and the whole shows a lightness and sureness of touch rarely equalled even by this great craftsman in other pieces. The interest of the service in the history of English silver is greatly enhanced by the fact that the invoices for its manufacture, in Lamerie's own hand, are still extant. From these we learn that he charged for silver at 6s. 2d. an ounce, for the fashioning 5s. an ounce, and for engraving the arms 6 guineas, (this latter work possibly being done by a separate engraver employed by the silversmith). The present weight of the service is 545 ounces, though in the invoice Lamerie gives the weight as 637 ounces, and we must, therefore, assume that in the course of time some pieces have become separated or lost. The total cost was £377 13s. 10d., including "ye trunk for all ye dressing plate."

The next piece illustrated is also connected with the same George Treby. This is the magnificent plain punch-bowl of 1723 (Fig. 5), with its most interesting engraving, on one side of a procession of gentlemen on a quayside, and on the other of the same figures in a convivial setting with the very bowl itself in their midst. The bowl was a gift from George Treby to Arthur Holdsworth, who was Admiral of St. John's Harbour, Newfoundland and commander of the ship *Nicholas*, of Dartmouth, in 1700. The eleven men depicted on the bowl, says E. Alfred Jones in his catalogue of the Collection, "were doubtless a company of Adventurers in the Newfoundland Fishery Trade, and Arthur Holdsworth and George Treby were two of their number." The engraving is the prime interest of the piece, and displays strongly Hogarthian characteristics in its lively portraiture. There is, however, unfortunately no evidence yet discovered to enable us to claim the artist as its engraver, and, barring any documentary discovery to this effect, we can only point to its strong resemblance to his work.

There are a number of fine trays and salvers from Lamerie's hand in



5.—THE TREBY PUNCH-BOWL, 1723. Engraved with portraits of eleven Adventurers in the Newfoundland Fisheries

various owners' possession, such as a finely engraved one of 1720 formerly in the Swaythling Collection, and one of 1734 belonging to the Earl of Jersey. These are represented in the Farrer Collection by another of the same year as the last mentioned (Fig. 6), which has an almost identical rim to Lord Jersey's, the centre being chased in full Rococo style with shells, waterfalls and scrollled cartouches. The contemporary arms are those of Mills. This important piece, 24½ inches long, displays the author's Rococo style at its best, and well under control. It must be admitted that there is little evidence in some of his later works of such control.

It is interesting to compare this last piece with the square salver



6.—GEORGE II OBLONG SALVER, 1734



7.—ADMIRAL ANSON'S SALVER, 1725

of 1725, one of a pair. (Fig. 7). These bear the arms of Admiral Anson, the 18th-century circumnavigator, though dating from not earlier than 1748, the year of his marriage to Lady Elizabeth Yorke, daughter of the first Earl of Hardwicke, whose arms are here impaled with the admiral's. The earlier date of this piece to the last-mentioned accounts for the greater degree of restraint in the chased decoration, though even here in the shells at the corners there is evidence of the approaching craze for Rococo. The pair of salvers are 15½ inches square.

Finally I have selected a cake basket of 1731 (Fig. 8), one of three of the same basic design, illustrated in E. A. S. Phillips's *Paul De Lamerie*. The others belong to the Marquess of Bristol and the Goldsmiths' Company. Similar pieces by other goldsmiths are known, but the Farrer example is outstanding in its fine border of plaited basketwork and foliage. The arms are those of Lord Nassau Paulet. The Collection also contains a pair of very similar baskets by Lamerie of 1736, though of a more modest treatment, as well as two formed as scallop shells of 1746 and 1747, and another pair of 1744, finely engraved and pierced with fruit and flowers in a restrained and natural Rococo rendering.

To discuss only eight pieces out of the forty-three by Paul De Lamerie at the Ashmolean Museum can do little more than hint at the wealth of invention, supreme quality of execution and mastery of technique of this craftsman. Suffice it to say, therefore, that for the student of English silver, the Collection stands justified by the works of this master alone.

(The previous article in this series appeared on April 11).

(To be concluded)



8.—GEORGE II CAKE BASKET, 1731

CORRESPONDENCE

A CAT-CHASING BLACKBIRD

SIR.—Deep in the ivy on a wall of this house a blackbird recently built its nest and brought up four young. Hearing the bird's rapid warning clack of danger one day, I looked out from the window and saw a cat crouched on the far side of the lawn, and dangerously near the black bird, facing it and keeping up an incessant cry.

The cat lashed its tail but then to my astonishment instead of springing at the bird it turned and跑出了 the house. Upon the bird had immediately lowered its head and made a short run after it.

The cat half turned and then continued its retreat followed by the bird which in a series of short runs proceeded to chase it off the lawn.

I have seen nothing that surprised me more.—T. H. HUNTER. *The Old Forge, North Lancing, Sussex.*

THE BRANDING OF FOX-HOUNDS

SIR.—The story may be remembered of Jerry Hawkins, the sportsman living on Swithland at Haweswood, who, before the hounds were built whose famous feet was swimming, the river on horseback to shorten a journey. A print of a painting, which was at Berkeley Castle shows him surrounded by Berkeley hounds each brandishing a stick. Is there any one who thinks that this practice of branding hounds ceased?—T. HANNAH CLARK. *4, Lansdown Place, Cheltenham.*

So far as I know hounds were being branded up to about 1870 but by then the practice was apparently dying out and it probably came to an end not long afterwards. LD.

QUEEN WASPS BY THE SCORE

SIR.—The common coton-easter has a remarkable fascination for wasps as for bees but I was none the less astonished to find twenty or thirty queen wasps together on a largish bush in the garden into flower in my garden at Writsdown.

Armed with a butterfly net and spending four or five hours at the bush on May 25 and 26 we succeeded in killing a total of 111. On the 27th and the 28th there were still plenty about for those who had the time to continue the slaughter.

I claim no records but it occurs to me that others might be interested by this success to examine their own gardens and so diminish what in my experience promises to be a major wasp plague this year. M. G. J. JOY. *Morelands, Ballymena, near Larne, County Antrim, Northern Ireland.*

(Other correspondents have drawn attention to the large number of queen wasps abroad this year and to their fondness for cotton easter and rhododendron flowers. Ed.)

"TEUCHAT'S STORM"

SIR.—Apropos of the letter in your issue of May 16 about the expression "Peewit's Pinch" being used in Surrey in reference to the weather you may be interested to hear that in Angus and probably elsewhere in Scotland country folk speak of the "Teuchat's Storm" which probably has the same meaning. They refer to a late snowfall

in April after the peewits have returned and have begun to nest. Teuchat is a common Scottish name for the peewit.

Although these storms do not last long as a rule they are sometimes sufficiently severe to cover up the birds' normal food supply and the word "pinch" seems to be a very appropriate one.—L. LESLIE SMITH. *4, The Strand, Broughty Ferry, Angus.*

TRANSPLANTING OF FRITILLARIES

SIR.—With reference to recent correspondence about the transplantation of fritillaries or snakes heads these plants were introduced into this country about 150 years ago, far from being in a water meadow they are planted in the grass sloping down to the courtyard of this house, which is 540 feet above sea level.

If they are increasing, they are doing it very slowly but each year they flower with the daffodils. I have never seen them in flower in the



THE PALLADIAN BRIDGE AT WILTON, WILTSHIRE. AND (left) AN INSCRIPTION THOUGHT TO COMMEMORATE JOHN DEVALL, A STONE MASON EMPLOYED IN ITS CONSTRUCTION
*See letter, *Wiltshire Master Architect**

1737

will have initials in Latin which have died
I. W. Elliott CANNING of Four
Lanes for Angus

A BLUE TIT'S CLUTCH

SIR.—In COUNTRY LIFE of June 6 a correspondent described how he examined a blue tit's nest in evening and found that it contained no eggs but next morning, there were no fewer than nine.

The explanation of this apparently extraordinary happening is to be found in the usual practice of the tit female of laying an egg or two of nursing material after each addition until the clutch is complete until the bird begins to brood the eggs are no longer covered in her absence.

What had evidently happened was that an egg had been laid on each of the first four days and the nest was visited by your correspondent when the total was complete. Next morning the eggs were uncovered and incubation had begun. COUNTRYMAN Tayport Fife

RECORD INCREASE IN VALUE?

SIR.—I enclose a photograph of the old Feathers Hotel at Ludlow, Shropshire. This lovely building has recently been sold for £20,000 and I am sure it will continue to be used as an hotel so that the public will still be able to see the wonderful plaster ceiling and oak carving within. It is amusing to recall that three hundred and forty years ago the building was sold for £22. RALPH A. SMITH. *9, Barboune Road, Worcester.*

PALLADIAN BRIDGE ARCHITECT

SIR.—From time to time recently there have been references in COUNTRY LIFE to Mr. John Devall, one of the ablest yet least known architects of the second quarter of the 18th century and more particularly as "ghost to the 9th Earl of Pembroke" one of the most distinguished architects of the time. There has been some speculation whether Morris should not be regarded as the actual designer of the Palladian Bridge at Wilton, Wiltshire shown in my larger photograph, rather than in the east end where the structure has hitherto been ascribed together with Marble Hill at Twickenham and other buildings of considerable distinction.

In the course of our correspondence in COUNTRY LIFE (February 25, March 27 and April 7, 1944), Morris has been shown to have held the post of carpenter and

engineer to the Board of Ordnance to have died January 1748/49 and to have had a son, Mr. Roger Morris, who in 1758 prevailed over George Washington, the Major of the New York Militia, to have him married to Mary Phillips of New York. The elder Morris the architect married Mary Vandepoot daughter of a prosperous knighted London merchant. This led me to suggest that Morris designed Standlynch (now brick) at Wilton, Wiltshire, and died in 1733 in addition to Inverary Castle (1746) and the work at Goodwood and Chichester previously associated with his name.

Lord Herbert has recently shown me a number of extracts from the 8th Lord Pembroke's Household 1739/40 account of which seems to confirm my putative Morris authorship of the Wilton version of the plans of the Palladian Bridge and which also give us the name of the mason who built it. Between February 1737 and September 1738 Morris was paid £392 odd the entry of £100. The entry of 1738 seems to be Mr. Roger Morris the bairn of his a/ct being £202 19 11 which with £190 received before it in full for all demands to this day. In July 1743 there is another entry.

To Mr. Roger Morris in full to pay all the Bills of my new temple building and other repairs in my house the abstract of which Bills he has this day delivered to me with a receipt in full the different workmen being employed by him £121 15 1. In 1745 he received £208 for sundry bills for work done at Whitehall.

From these payments to him in 1737-48 is the entry Oct 5 1737 To Mr. John Devall stone mason in full 103 0 0. On the south east keystone of the Palladian Bridge is discernible the inscription 1 D 1737 depicted in the other photograph. It seems very probable that this is for John Devall. The mason's account book only gives me the following information about John Devall of which name there were evidently two if not three masons no doubt father and son besides George Devall master plumber to whom frequent payments are also noted in the Wilton, Wiltshire Book.

The Devalls lived at Islipworth where tablets at St. John's Church commemorate Mr. John Devall died 1774 aged 73 and Mr. John Devall died 1794 aged 86. They (presumably) were the John Devalls who were Master of the Masons' Company respectively in 1780 and 1784. A John Devall submitted to *Witwatershires* Vol IV (1767) had worked under Flitcroft at Woburn where and also at the Foundling Hospital he is said to have supplied chimney-pieces

The masons at St. Olave's, Southwark, 1738-39, were Messrs. Devall and Horsenall, the architect being Flitcroft. John Devall, mason, tendered for the removal of the columns from the gutter line of St. John's, Westminster, 1744. Mr. C. G. Smith suggests the possibility that the "John Devall" in the conversation piece by Pyne including Henry Keene and other architectural persons may be a misreading for John Devall.

If the payments made to Morris in 1737-38 represent the Palladian Bridge, it is presumed that, as in 1743, the £392 covered the wages of the workmen other than John Devall, who, we may suppose, was responsible for the finer masonry. If so, the total cost of the Palladian Bridge was £495.

—CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY, 13, Cadogan Square, S.W.1.

A LANDSCAPE IDENTIFIED

SIR.—The landscape reproduced in *Collector's Questions* of May 9 shows, in my opinion, a view looking towards the south-east from a point near the upper end of French Gate in Richmond, Yorkshire. The church is Richmond parish church of Saint Mary. The tower to the right of the church is typical of this limestone dales country and are the ones immediately below Richmond Castle, which stands majestically on a limestone cliff overlooking the river and commanding the entrance to the dales. The river, the Swale, is on the left; the landscape shows very well Swaledale opening out to the northern part of the Vale of York.

In the middle distance and to the



"THE SEA-BOUND CITY OF CADIZ" FROM THE HARBOUR: (Right) A COBBLED STREET LEADING INTO THE OLD HILL-TOWN OF MEDINA SIDONIA

See letter: *Memories of Spain*

church. The nave and chancel have since been given high-pitched roofs, but the church is clearly recognisable as that shown in the foreground of the painting.—ED.]

MURDER IN WOOD

SIR.—Your recent illustration of a wood-carving depicting the Disraeli slaying of Becket prompts me to send you the enclosed photograph of a quaint carving in wood at Fornham St. Martin church, Suffolk. It would appear to represent the murder of Thomas à Becket at Canterbury on December 29, 1170.

The sword and helmet of the murderer are somewhat out of proportion, to put it mildly. The chaplain stands alongside holding his hand, apparently unconcerned at what is happening.—J. D. ROBINSON, 19, Langholm Crescent, Darlington, Durham.

DOCKING OF HORSES' TAILS

SIR.—I entirely agree with your correspondent, Mr. H. H. Pollock, (January 12 and May 9), about the cruelty of docking. It is purely a matter of fashion, and serves no useful purpose whatsoever. The horse was given his tail as a protection against flies and other tormenting insects, as well as to shield him from

cold, wind and rain, and it is gross cruelty to deprive him of this protection.

Why does Britain not prohibit the practice altogether, as has been done in Norway, Sweden and other humane and progressive countries? The great majority of horse-owners and breeders would surely welcome legislation to this end. A number of horse breeders have told me that they hated docking their animals, but so long as it was the fashion they felt they must do it. One might see a docked horse in Ireland.

Visitors from abroad are amazed that such a practice should persist in a country like Britain which prides herself on her good treatment of animals. When will she rid herself of this blot on her civilisation?—A. G. G. BROWN, Donaghmore, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland.

PAINTED LADIES IN IRELAND

SIR.—It may be of interest to your entomological readers to record that this year there is, in my locality, an unusual number of painted lady butterflies. It is some years since I have met with them in Ireland.

Assuming that most of them have come from North Africa, it seems extraordinary that such a fragile insect can successfully cross two seas in such numbers and yet reach us in such

perfect condition. Perhaps some others of your readers may be able to remark on the abundance of painted ladies this year.—T. R. H. SMYTH, Sweetbank Cottages, Newcastle, Co. Wicklow, Eire.

MEMORIES OF SPAIN

SIR.—The article *A Snipe Shoot in Spain*, in *Country Life* of May 23, interested me greatly, since I know that part of the country well where Mr. Ingram went. As he mentioned Medina Sidonia with its old Moorish buildings and cobbled streets, you may be interested to see the enclosed photograph, which depicts one of the cobbled streets leading into the town through an archway.

My other picture is of the road and the harbour wall of "the sea-bound city of Cadiz," one of the most attractive of all the Spanish cities.



THE MURDER OF THOMAS A BECKET: A CARVING AT FORNHAM ST. MARTIN, CHURCH, SUFFOLK

See letter: *Murder in Wood*

immediate left of the church are a group of buildings in the approximate position of the ruins of St. Martin's Priory and at present incorporated in farm buildings. To the left and in the more remote middle distance are the ruins of Easby Abbey, but it is difficult to identify them in the reproduction of the painting.

The view is considerably altered to-day by the construction of a road bridge across the river, just below and to the left of the church, the railway station on the opposite bank of the river and a main road leading to Catterick Camp from the same point. The foreground is modified by the construction of houses and the planting of numerous trees. The falls under the castle was selected by our utilitarian and expansive forefathers of the Victorian era as the site of no less an essential of modern civilisation than a gas works!

However, even the circular, somewhat truncated *gazebos* are dwarfed by the great by-ways, and the river scene from near Richmond Church, captured perhaps by Joseph Halfpenny so many years ago, is still very beautiful.—ROBERT WIGGINS-WORTH (Major), West Cottage, Victoria Road, Richmond, Yorkshire.

[Our correspondent's identification is confirmed by comparing the landscape with a modern photograph of Richmond showing St. Mary's

which lies almost on an island in the middle of blue sea, and with blue skies and the white buildings gives the impression of a cool freshness that is very often absent from the inland towns of Spain, however lovely they may be.—RAIT KRR, 22, Elm Tree Road, N.W.8.

DESTRUCTION OF THE LITTLE OWL

SIR.—The enclosed photograph of a gamekeeper's gibbet, taken in a Warwickshire wood, may interest your readers, especially in that, apart from the normal collection of magpies, crows, stoats, weasels and foxes, there are four little owls on the gibbet.

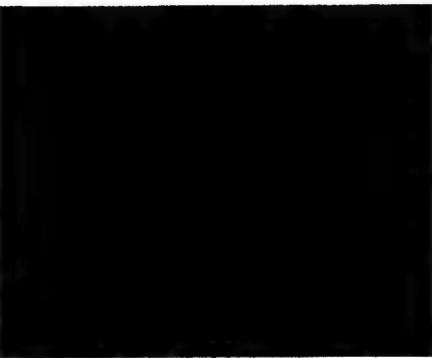
Since the little owl was introduced to England from the Continent it has multiplied enormously, and it is now well established in most parts of the country. Unfortunately, it acquired a bad reputation, but the enquiry into its food conducted on behalf of the British Trust for Ornithology during 1936-37 showed beyond doubt that the larger part of its prey consists of enemies of the farmer, and one cannot therefore help wondering whether its destruction is not a short-sighted policy.—THOMAS A. ANGLEY, 222, Court Lane, Erdington, Birmingham 23.

[Individual little owls undoubtedly do considerable damage, especially in the breeding season, when they kill and eat birds, but on balance the bird would seem to do at least as much good as harm.¹ According to the report of the enquiry quoted by our correspondent, roughly half of its food consists of insects.—ED.]

EDITIONS OF THE GRETE HERBALL

SIR.—I must thank you for your very interesting reply to my letter about *The Grete Herball* in your issue of May 23. The 1525-1528 edition is, I presume, the undated one mentioned by Hazlitt and apparently no other record of it exists.

¹ I made a slip about the 1530 edition; it was sold, not at Sotheby's,



A GAMEKEEPER'S GIBBET IN A WARWICKSHIRE WOOD

See letter: *Destruction of the Little Owl*



A WOMAN OF KASHMIR WITH HER SPINNING-WHEEL

See letter: Spinning by Hand in India

but by Lowe of Birmingham, in January, 1927, for £18. It is described in their catalogue 986, and in their reproduction of the wording of the title is correct, there is quite a difference from the 1830 title—1830:—
"And also the gyveth parfyte under-standinge of the booke lateynly printed by me (Peter Treveris) named the noble experies of the vertuous hand-wark of surgery" 1530: "And also it gyveth parfyte knowledge and understandinge of the booke lateynly printed by Peter Treveris, named the noble experies of Vertuous Handwork of Surgery."

A 1527 edition is mentioned by Ames as having been printed for Laurence Andrews.

Both Ames and Pulteney mention an edition of 1528, but do not have any knowledge of its existence.

The *Little Herbal* attributed to Anthony Askham is, of course, one of the 17 editions of Bancks's *Herbal*. The "by Anthony Askham" refers not to the book but to the "certayne addicions at the ende of the boke, declaryng whiche plants be good to certayne sterres and constellacions

in the Almanacks made and gathered in the yere of our Lord God M.D.L., the XII day of February by Anthony Askham. Phisycyon."

There is no reason why *The Grete Herbal*, 1576 edition, should not be a translation of *Arbolaris*, though the book has the same as that of *Le Grand Herbarie*. The text of the Le Caron edition of *Le Grand Herbarie* agrees with the *Arbolaris*. (There are at least 11 folio editions and 11 quarto

editions of *Le Grand Herbarie*!—C. W. T. H. FLEMING, Barnwood House, Gloucester.

MYSTERY OF A CAULDRON

Sir.—With reference to the statement that the purpose of the cauldron in Freshman's *Spells*, illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE of May 30, is unknown, may I suggest that it may have had a similar origin to that of one that once existed in Ware, Hertfordshire, of which we have record? The subject is large: of one new church (St. Peter's, Grange Park, Middlesex), it was five years ago reported that the choir stalls and rood screen were removed from St. Sepulchre and from All Hallows, both of Poplar; that altar rails and font came from Wren's St. Catherine Coleman; that pews and pulpit were provided by St. Peter's, Paul's, Finsbury Palace Road; that the lectern was formerly in the private chapel of Prebendary Austin Thompson (who was killed outside his church in St. Peter's, Finsbury Square); that the bell came from St. John's, Drury Lane; and that the roof timbers were obtained from St. Stephen's, Bow, St. Mary's, Islington, St. Paul's, Edgware Road, and St. Paul's, Bethnal Green.

So much for a single church. A curious student, extending his range to fabrics other than church furniture, would find some of the Sussex iron railings that formerly adorned St. Paul's Cathedral now preserved in Lewes Museum, and others ex parte to Toronto, Canada. He would, of course, know that the chains and much other steelwork of the old Hungerford Bridge over the Thames now suspend the modern Clifton Bridge over the Avon Gorge at Bristol, and that the old Temple Bar is at Theobalds Park, Waltham, Hertfordshire. But it might be news that the front of Swansgate Town Hall was once the front of the old Mercers' Hall, demolished in 1868, about 65 years ago; that the Ionic columns of Lord Templewood's Palladian villa in Norfolk were once part of Soane's Bank of England; and that the stone dragons' heads in Sir Charles Trevelyan's grounds at Wallington, Northumberland, once adorned London's old Mintgate, demolished more than 175 years ago.

Nor is London the only great city that have had her dilapidations turned to account; indeed, the distinction of providing the largest quantity of useful war ruins might possibly go to Britain, the strength of figures published five or six years ago. Some 3,000 cubic yards of British debris were then reported to have been sold to provide hard core for the East River Drive of Manhattan, New York

what from the usual type in having the top of the back wall extended upwards into an equilateral triangle with corbie-steps. This form of roof was sometimes adopted in French dovecotes to protect the birds from the boisterous mistral. In this instance it appears to be merely ornamental.—
STUDENT OF ARCHITECTURE, *Forfar, Angus.*

SPINNING BY HAND IN INDIA

Sir.—With reference to recent correspondence about spinning by hand, you may be interested in the enclosed photograph of a woman spinning in a country village near Srinagar, Kashmir. She is turning the wheel with her right hand, and pulling the wool out with her left.—M. S. MILLIKEN, *Pembroke College, Cambridge.*

FROM THE OLD TO THE NEW

Sir.—A correspondent wrote about what had been transferred from one church to another, and expressed the hope that systematic records were being kept of removals, which must have multiplied during the war because of bomb damage.

The subject is large: of one new church (St. Peter's, Grange Park, Middlesex), it was five years ago reported that the choir stalls and rood screen were removed from St. Sepulchre and from All Hallows, both of Poplar; that altar rails and font came from Wren's St. Catherine Coleman; that pews and pulpit were provided by St. Peter's, Paul's, Finsbury Palace Road; that the lectern was formerly in the private chapel of Prebendary Austin Thompson (who was killed outside his church in St. Peter's, Finsbury Square); that the bell came from St. John's, Drury Lane; and that the roof timbers were obtained from St. Stephen's, Bow, St. Mary's, Islington, St. Paul's, Edgware Road, and St. Paul's, Bethnal Green.

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City; the rubble made good ballast for vessels which could not then be laden with manufactured exports, and the New York authorities were glad to pay twenty cents a cubic yard for it. There should be some puzzle for archaeologists excavating in New York a millennium or two hence!—
LECTOR, *Berkshire.*

TREES IN THE GALES

Sir.—Corsican pine usually stands as single-rooted, wind-drifted tree, but observations made in two or three Berkshire woods since the April gales suggest that Corsicans were among the worst sufferers. I have made no counts and can offer no statistical support for what can only be a hasty impression, but it would be interesting to know what other people think and what has happened elsewhere.

My photograph shows five Corsicans down on the *lee* side of a plantation, where the pines meet Japanese



CORSICAN PINES LAID LOW BY THE APRIL GALES

See letter: Trees in the Gales

larches. Elsewhere in this same wood Corsicans suffered heavily, but the casualties among some well-grown Sitka spruce (commonly praised as much less vulnerable by wind than the notoriously shallow-rooted Norway spruce) were even heavier and more spectacular.—J. D. U. W., *Berkshire.*

HUMMING-BIRD MOTHS IN YORKSHIRE

Sir.—On June 1, at 10.15 p.m., I observed two humming-bird hawk-moths in this garden. They hovered over the azaleas, wallflowers, and primroses, and in the rockery, continuously for five minutes or so. It is the first time I have ever seen this moth in this district.—ARTHUR E. IRONS, 465, *Whirlowdale Road, Sheffield, 11.*

PAINTINGS BY PAUL NASH

Sir.—In memory of the late Paul Nash, a volume illustrating his development as a painter is now being prepared under my editorship. It is proposed to include a full list of all the paintings that were exhibited by Mr. Nash during his lifetime and have since passed into private collections, and I should be most grateful if any of your readers can add to this list. Paul Nash would communicate with me.—
MANFRED E. EASTE, *c/o MAERS, Petty Lane, Hampstead and Co., 12, Bedford Square, W.C.1.*



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See letter: At Glamis Castle

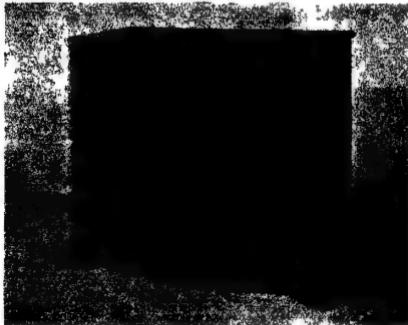
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THE CASE FOR GARDEN MECHANISATION

By D. T. MacFIE

FAR from having eased, the garden labour problem has got progressively worse. To keep a garden going is not now merely a question of expense minus possible tax reliefs being weighed against profits that must always be problematical to some extent. The first and the most difficult hurdle to surmount is to find a bare sufficiency of even partly skilled men in the arts and crafts of gardening.

There is no doubt that mechanisation does offer a possible solution to the problem. It is far quicker and easier to train a machine-minded man to operate intelligently on the land, within the limits of the machine he operates, than it is to teach untrained youngsters to use hand tools efficiently and with intelligence, even if untrained youngsters were either available or likely to remain in what so many of them regard as a dead-end job. The lure of the factory, the high wages and the robot job that calls for little intelligence and less understanding would still seem to be desperately difficult to resist.

There can be no question that mechanisation will cut the number of hands required. It must do. No sane landowner would be prepared to pay some hundreds of pounds for equipment that did nothing to cut his wages bill, and so there is an obvious method of approaching the question. It calls, in the first place, for the co-operation of a thoroughly competent head gardener. Every scheme for keeping a garden going does. His knowledge, his plantman's lore, will always in the end be the delineator between success and failure, and he is needed even more in a mechanised garden than in the more elastically managed establishment that relies on skilled hand labour.

Given a fair estimation of a machine's capabilities, any head gardener should be able to work out a reasonable approximation of how much labour can be saved, the machine being used for every possible task—ploughing, cultivating, ridging, rough grass cutting, as a power unit, etc. The saving, with wise planning, will certainly be considerable.

Here then is the foundation of a mechanised budget, a definite sum which can be written down on the credit side. On the debit side must come wages of the operator, and tractor costs, running costs, depreciation, etc. It should not be difficult to arrive at a fairly precise figure that will represent worthwhile expenditure as opposed to care-free spending of what can be a considerable sum.

As visitors to the Royal Horticultural Society's show and demonstration have seen, small-powered implements have been developed to a remarkable extent. The day of one-job machines is over. Instead, manufacturers have followed the lead of farm-tractor designers in

producing one basic power unit with a complete range of standardised implements that are easily and quickly fitted. There are now available even midget units, including one with a power unit of just 100 c.c. and a standardised tool bar that can be fitted for cultivating, hoeing, light ridging, disc harrowing, rough grass cutting, hedge clipping and to power a large pneumatic-tired wheelbarrow. As a power take-off is also provided, there should not be many days in a well-organised garden when useful work,

I cite these cases merely to emphasise the importance of careful assessment of all the difficulties and the need for a full demonstration and for expert advice. One does not, after all, spend hundreds or thousands of pounds on a car without demonstrations and very careful weighing up of the pros and cons. A tractor is called upon to perform a far greater diversity of tasks and under infinitely varying conditions.

One specific thing can be said. The first essential is to make sure that the machine is man enough for the job. A couple of "extra horses" will never be regretted.

To return to the question of the tractor operator; it is infinitely more important that he should be machine-minded rather than a skilled husbandman. It is not enough that he should be competent to operate the machine. He must also be able to maintain it and, as so many of us abundantly proved during the war, intelligent maintenance will only be carried out by a man who has some appreciation of the reasons why; in other words, he must have at least an elementary knowledge of the functioning of an internal combustion engine.

The Army task system of maintenance with the simplest possible log sheet I would adopt without hesitation. It is an excellent safeguard against forgetfulness; it gives the owner or head gardener a chance to check on the operator, and, since it operates only against the inefficient, or the good-for-nothing, no reasonable man will object to its use.

There is also the important point that the type of man most owners will want to-day has almost certainly had his mechanical training in the Army and is, therefore, thoroughly used to the system.

To the manufacturers I offer freely the suggestion that provision of log sheets detailing essential tasks on a daily, weekly and monthly basis in a step most owners would welcome. To go one stage further, short courses, again on Army lines, teaching just exactly how to get the best out of a particular machine, would, I feel certain, be welcome.

Due allowance for maintenance must, of course, be made in the tractor operator's time sheet. I stress this point for I know there can be a tendency on the part of the more conservative school of head gardeners to regard maintenance as a time-wasting, wet-weather job—a tendency which must be sternly suppressed from the outset. The smaller the machine the more important this is. Although the larger engines are not more tolerant of neglect, with smaller working parts the little engine will simply show the ill effects more quickly.

THE "TRUSTY," A STURDY BUILT MEDIUM-POWER TRACTOR WITH CULTIVATING ATTACHMENT

as opposed to time-filling jobs, could not be done. Contemplated additions to the range of implements include a lawn mower, seeder and spraying and dusting equipment. That is just one example. There are others ranging from midgets to tractors of as much as 6 h.p. which are not only handy and simple to operate, but will easily do the work of a ploughing team.

These larger tractors carry—and need—more refinements than the light and easily-handled midgets, power steering, individual wheel brakes, reverse gears, etc., but it is not possible to assess on paper the suitability of any particular machine for a specific garden. There are so many things to be taken into consideration, such as the nature of the soil and the contours of the land. On two occasions during the last year I have heard of cases where a tractor, through no fault in design or manufacture, proved a complete flop. In each case it was decided that to plough up the slope of a fairly steeply sloping kitchen garden site called for too heavy and expensive a machine, but that ploughing across the slope could be tackled by a lighter and less expensive model. A tractor was ordered and delivered—an excellent machine—and ploughing commenced, only for the mortified owner to find that it had not sufficient weight and adhesion to hold on the slope.



A NEW MIDGET 100 C.C. TRACTOR OPERATING AN ELECTRICAL HEDGE TRIMMER. (Right) THE SAME TRACTOR WITH A BARROW ATTACHMENT



NEW CARS DESCRIBED

THE MORRIS TEN

By J. EASON GIBSON

THE current version of the Morris 10 is basically the same as the pre-war model, and the design, although very conventional, has been proved over a period of years in the hands of the general motoring public. Since this car is made primarily for the more popular market, the requirements of which do not include extremes of performance or luxury, it has been possible to build it more cheaply and better with a conventional and straightforward design than would be possible with a more advanced layout, which might be of doubtful value to the majority of purchasers. As I have previously suggested, before considering the purchase, or attempting the criticism, of any car, it is best to consider exactly what purpose the designer had in mind. The degree of success that is achieved must then be the basis of one's judgment. In many instances it will be found that the well-thought-out, though conventional design, will surpass the car that has had modern features added, merely as selling points, without due thought and care.

This model embodies integral construction, in which the steel body and the chassis are one unit. This method of construction saves weight, and gives greater rigidity, weight for weight. The suspension is by semi-elliptic springs all round, assisted by piston-type hydraulic shock-absorbers. In addition, at the front a stabilising rod is fitted, the prevent undue sway on corners. The engine is four-cylinder, employing overhead valves, and gives a maximum power output of 37 horse-power. Pains have been taken to avoid any heat or fumes entering the car; the combined air-cleaner and silencer also collects oil fumes from the valve cover, and there is a breather of sensible dimensions, discharging well below body level, to ventilate the crankcase. A double bulkhead between the engine and the driving compartments is provided to prevent heat and fumes from troubling the passengers. An external oil-filter is used, of the type employing an expendable cartridge, and there is the normal suction gauge over the inlet pipe in the sump.

The oil-filler is handily placed on the valve cover, but the dip-stick appeared to me to be awkwardly placed. The battery is carried under the bonnet, and can be reached easily from either side of the car. The cooling system is provided with a thermostatic control, to assist in rapid warming up from cold, and to maintain the correct working temperature. The pedal-operated four-speed gearbox is located under the bonnet, and the hand lever, operating through cables, takes effect on the rear wheels only. The lever is conveniently placed between the adjustable front seats; this seems a much better position than the fashionable pistol-type of control, so often tucked away under the instrument panel. To assist in speedy and splash-free refilling with petrol, the pipe from the filler to the tank has been kept free from bends and a large vent is provided. Jacking is by a screw-type jack, which is operated by the wheel brace, after attachment of the jack to the bumper bracing. This jack is normally carried under the overhang of the rear seat.

The bodywork gives a pleasing impression of roominess and airiness, an impression that is borne out in actual measurement, and by practical experience. It is possible for three average-sized adults to travel in the rear seat with a degree of comfort, and with ample head-room. The driving position is good; the seat is comfortable and also holds the driver well upright. All the controls and instruments are well placed, and the thin-rimmed steering wheel is at just the right angle for perfect control. The instrument lighting also illuminates the parcel shelf underneath, which runs the entire width of the car, and this proves very useful for map-reading after dark. The glass louvres fitted to the front

doors, for ventilation purposes, while very useful for that purpose, proved an inconvenience when I attempted to put my head out in reversing.

A good point is the ample room available for the driver's left foot beside the clutch pedal, and conveniently close to the dipping switch. On many cars the driving mirror merely complies with regulations; this one fitted to this car, however, gives a usefully wide range of view. Quotation of certain body measurements will confirm the impression of roominess I have

forwards figures in feet of snow. I had, however, endless opportunities of trying the car under very adverse conditions, and found it safe and easy to handle on the worst possible snow or ice. On a quiet and deserted section of my test route I found it possible to indulge in racing practice, entering certain corners in controlled four-wheel slides. Undoubtedly this is not the manner in which these cars will normally be driven, but it does indicate the stability available for emergencies. While the maximum speed achieved may strike some people as on the low side, it should be remembered that with this type of car the average owner seldom, if ever, desires to use the maximum speed. What is essential is a reasonably high cruising speed, and I found that the car would cruise comfortably and effortlessly at 45 to 60 m.p.h. for as long as road conditions would permit.

All controls—steering, brakes, and clutch—were accurate and light in operation, and at any cornering speed I could have been mistaken by an owner there were no noticeable lack of body sway. Partly to test the car's starting abilities I left it out overnight on two occasions, and despite the severe weather there was no trouble in getting an instantaneous start the following mornings. Some owners might find it possible to improve on the petrol consumption figure I obtained of 31 m.p.g., since this was done under very heavy road conditions. The horn, I found, was far from adequate, its note being too soft to penetrate a saloon car in front, much less heavy lorries. For the motorist desiring economical everyday motoring, and not interested in performance or luxury, however, this car appeared to me to be as good as any other.

Since writing in COUNTRY LIFE of March 28 about post-war car wireless developments, I have had the opportunity of testing the capabilities of a modern set under very varied conditions. It was an Eko, which had been installed in a Humber Snipe. The set was fitted under the instrument panel, with a remote control easily reached by the driver or the front-seat passenger. Two loud-speakers were used, one fitted into the instrument panel, and the other concealed beneath the parcel shelf behind the rear seats. This system produces most pleasing results, since it is possible to obtain perfect reception throughout the car without the volume being raised unduly. Instead of the music, or whatever one may be listening to, emanating rather obviously from the point of the whole car interior seems to be filled with it. Motorists who remember pre-war wireless sets will recall the frequent occasions on which one had to re-tune the set for example in deep cuttings or after making a right-angle turn. This is unnecessary now-a-days, since the automatic gain control fitted makes the required adjustments, so that the volume and clarity of reception remain constant, or at least as nearly so as the ear can tell. I tested the set in narrow city streets with high steel-framed buildings, underneath long railway bridges, and at high speeds on the open road. Under such varied conditions the reception showed marked improvement over anything I can recall from pre-war days.

Two invaluable publications for the motorist interested in continental touring are again available. These are the 1947 editions of the *Michelin Guide* and *Les Auberges de France*. The first is published by, and can be obtained through, the Michelin Tyre Co., Ltd., Fulham Road, London, S.W.3; the other is published by the famous *Club des Sims-Club* and can be obtained through Motor Touring Publications, Albion Street, Leeds. If these two books are used in conjunction, the motorist can be sure of finding his way anywhere in France, and also of finding the best hotels and restaurants.

THE MORRIS 10 SALOON



mentioned. From the front seat to the roof measures 36 in., and the equivalent measurement in the back is 34 in. The total width of the rear seat is 48 in., while the distance from inside the arm-rests is 41 in. The knee-room in the rear compartment varies with the adjustment made to the front seats, from a minimum of 6 in. to a maximum of 10 in.

The luggage space is good for what is, after all, a small car: 36 in. by 18 in. by 21 in. The entire space is available for luggage, since the spare wheel is carried in a separate compartment below the boot. The tools are carried in a space under the front passenger's seat the inevitable carriage key being used to open this locker. This type of key is also used for opening the bonnet, which does not appeal to me as the ideal method.

With a car of this type optimum performance figures are of relative unimportance compared with the car's ability to offer sustained trouble-free and economical motoring under everyday conditions. Owing to the weather my tests were fairly prolonged, since on the first occasion it proved impossible to obtain per-

THE MORRIS 10

Makers: Morris Motors, Ltd., Cowley, Oxford.]

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Front	5 ft. 9 in. x 20 in.	Track (front)	4 ft. 2 in.
Front		Track (rear)	4 ft. 2 in.
Front		Overall length	13 ft. 2 in.
Front		Overall width	5 ft. 5 in.
Front		Overall height	5 ft. 5 in.
Front		Gearbox clearance	6 ft. in.
Front		Turning circle	39 ft.
Front		Weight	18 cwt.
Front		Fuel capacity	7 gallons
Front		Oil capacity	5 pints
Front		Water capacity	5 pints
Front		Tyre size	5.00 x 16

PERFORMANCE

Acceleration	secs.	secs.	Max. speed	63.5 m.p.h.
10-30	17.5	24.0	Petrol consumption	31 m.p.g.
30-40	17.5	26.0	at average speed	31 m.p.g.
40-60	17.5	32.0	of 35 m.p.h.	

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	12.5 ft.	26 ft. per cent. efficiency on dry, concrete road.
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HUNTING THE MICROBE

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

MISS MARGARET GOLDMITH'S book, *The Road to Penicillin* (Lindsay Drummond, 10s. 6d.) is more exciting than any detective novel I have read. The search for a villain who has "done in" one person, or a couple of persons, is one thing. This is the story of the search for the invisible villain who kill by the million. Look at the great plague than 1347 swept across Europe from Asia to Constantinople. "It is estimated that 25 per cent. of the human race perished in this pandemic, and European society was completely disrupted by the loss of leading figures in the church, in law, in agriculture, in commerce, and in trade." There's murder for you! No wonder men have persistently sought

it was his habit to communicate to the Royal Society in London papers describing what he saw through them. In rain-water he discovered "little animals," and he discovered, too, that the microscope showed "little animals" in stink that he scraped from his tongue. He did not seem to have guessed what his "little animals" were but at last "a few far-sighted persons" began to look vaguely to consider. Leucophoresis, "little animals" in terms of human disease."

Then, not quite a hundred years later, "an astonishing youth" William Perkins at the age of eighteen discovered the dye-stuff called aniline purple and made a fortune. He also helped to deal with the invisible villain, "for the staining of bacteria

THE ROAD TO PENICILLIN. By Margaret Goldsmith

(Lindsay Drummond, 10s. 6d.)

ELIZABETH IS MISSING. By Lillian de la Torre

(Michael Joseph, 15s.)

KING COTTON. By Thomas Armstrong

(Collins, 12s. 6d.)

out the villains. Jealously, if nothing else, could account for it, for those slayers were killing men off as quickly as they have always killed off one another. It would be unpardonable if human supremacy in slaughter were surrendered to an invisible agent.

"INVISIBLE CREATURES"

So the search was on, and Miss Goldsmith's book is a brief and well-written account of its stages. At first, of course, it was all the will of the gods and the demons: intervention was almost impious. The idea of a germ, a microbe, was not on the cards and it was some time before invention by combination of chance and accident what caused the infection to pass from one to another was not realised. But, in the *Decameron*, Boccaccio noted that the sickness was caught "not only by conversing with, or coming near the sick, but even by touching their clothes . . . or anything they had touched," and in the first century B.C. an inspired guess at the identity of the villain had been made. Marcus Terentius Varro wrote that "small creatures, invisible to the eye, fill the atmosphere in marshy localities, and with the air breathed through the nose and mouth penetrate into the human body, thereby causing dangerous diseases."

In the 16th century the Paduan Fracastorius laid it down that, just as "germs of contagion" caused diseases, so there must be substances that would poison and repel the germs themselves; and thus, the germ-villain and the anti-germ substance both having been guessed at, the foundations of modern "chemotherapeutic treatment" had been glimpsed.

But to catch the villain, to see him with the eye, took some doing, and it was not until the 17th century that it was done. Antony van Leeuwenhoek was a quiet, respected citizen of Delft, a draper, who made the manufacture of microscopes his hobby, and

with coal-tar dyes made it possible for the scientists searching for new methods of attack against disease to identify various bacteria as well as to differentiate between them. When Koch later introduced this method of staining, it meant that technically, after centuries of groping, the last preparations had been made for the great chemotherapeutic discoveries of our own age."

These discoveries, of course, amount to finding out what specific substances will kill what specific tribe of germs, and even penicillin is not the end of the story. "One hears of claviformin, for example, also called patulin, and of helvetic acid. And penicillin has stimulated a widespread investigation of all moulds . . . Perhaps, after penicillin has been successfully synthesised, it will show the way to the *therapie sterilans magna* so ardently dreamed of by Erlich and hoped for by all humanity." Yet one wonders how far penicillin would have got if the war had not forced man to develop this method of mitigating the consequences of his own senseless slaughter. We can't blame it all on the microbes.

THE MISSING SERVANT GIRL

Elizabeth is Missing, by Lillian de la Torre (Michael Joseph, 15s.), is yet one more examination of a mystery which, like the mystery of the *Marie Celeste*, is "anybody's guess." Such diverse writers as Voltaire, Andrew Lang and Arthur Machen are a few among the many who have had a hand in the game; and the manuscript of the present volume, "with complete notes and fully annotated bibliography," is deposited in the Connecticut State Library at Hartford, Connecticut, for the use of scholars. So you see, this is a mystery that takes itself very seriously and attracts almost as much "curious" writing as those parts of Mr. Sherlock Holmes's life that were not dealt

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BOOKS

with by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. On New Year's Day in 1783 Elizabeth Canning, an eighteen-year-old servant girl, was visited home, who accompanied her towards her home, and parted from her soon after nine o'clock "at the foot of Hounds-ditch." Elizabeth was not seen again for a month. On the evening of January 29 "she stumbled, starving, ragged, and blue, into her mother's house in Aldermanbury Postern." Where had she been in the meantime? It is to answer that question that so much ink has been spilt.

Elizabeth's story was that she had been accosted by two men who took her money and her outer clothing, tied her hands behind her, and struck her on the head. This "threw her into a fit." She was taken to a house on the Hertfordshire Road, which she later identified as the house of a Mrs. Wells, a procurer. There she saw some "young wenches" and refused to join in their way of life. There was also "a tall, black, swarthy woman" who stole her stays. She was then put into a room with bread and water, remained there for a week, escaped through a window and walked home.

WAS SHE GUILTY?

Such was Elizabeth's story—a story which, as Miss de la Torre says, "set London by the ears." There were those who believed every word of it; there were those who thought Elizabeth a liar from end to end. There were pamphlets, and arrests, and trials, a searching of evidence from London to Dorset, convictions, public acclaim of Elizabeth as she moved to and from the courts and finally her own trial on a charge of perjury. She was found guilty and "transported" to America.

But was she guilty? That is what so many writers have wanted to know; that is the point about which so many theories and counter-theories have been propounded. Miss de la Torre's guess has ingenuity: it is not for me to give it away. Suffice it to say that, apart altogether from Elizabeth Canning and her "mystery," this book well rewards reading for the light it throws on the shabbier side of the 18th-century scene and for its presentation of the law's processes in those days.

WHEN LANCASHIRE STARVED

Mr. Thomas Armstrong's novel, *King Cotton* (Collins, 12s. 6d.), is a "mammoth" book. There are 928 pages of it, and, remember, publishers nowadays must crowd their pages. Long though the book is, it does not cover many years in time; it is intensive rather than extensive, the work of a writer determined to say every word that can be said about a given matter.

That matter is the reaction of the people of Throstleton, a Lancashire cotton town, to the American Civil War. Throstleton knew that the Yankee ships were preventing southern cotton from reaching Lancashire. Nevertheless, though this meant starvation for them, they loyally supported the Northern cause, because they believed it to be the anti-slavery cause, and thus they gave what Lincoln called a "divine Christian example."

Mr. Armstrong gives us a picture of this community before and during its time of trial. Perhaps nowhere in contemporary fiction is there so detailed a picture of a community. The multitude of individual portraits that compose it are as clear as the individual portraits in Firth's *Derby Day*, but here, as with that picture, the primary impact is made by the sense of mass.

Here you have every sort of Throstleton man and woman, rich and poor, tough and gentle. Fist-fights and tea-fights, chapel-going and horse-racing, card-making, inventing, rejoicing and suffering are the community that pollutes before the reader's eyes. For full measure, Mr. Armstrong throws in Liverpool, especially its back alleys and waterfront, and manages also to keep one or two love affairs moving. It is one of those books whose popular success one could safely bet on.

SCOTLAND UNDER TRUST

The National Trust for Scotland in fifteen years has acquired nearly 50 properties. On the map they appear sprinkled over three-quarters of the mainland, with one outpost in the Isle of Lewis, but the dots are scattered in and around Edinburgh. The Council's report for 1946, recently published (4 Great Stuart Street, Edinburgh), stresses the need for increased membership if the Trust's properties are to be efficiently administered, let alone expanded when opportunities offer. Although no solidification has necessarily taken first place in the Council's programme, two large and important properties were acquired in 1946—the Balmacara estate in Wester Ross bequeathed by Lady Hamilton and part of the Faskally estate in the Pass of Killiecrankie.

Since 1946 the estate of the Trust, A. S. O.

WEED CONTROL

WEED control by means of fertilisers and chemicals, including the systematic use of herbicides, upon which a great deal of valuable research work has been done in recent years. The added importance to producing maximum crops in this country, and the heavy increase in labour costs that so often makes old-established cultivation methods uneconomic, has stimulated the tempo of the work and focused interest on labour-saving methods. Farmers and gardeners will therefore welcome *Suppression of Weeds by Chemical and Fertilisers* by H. C. Long and J. C. Boulton (Crosby Lockwood, 6s.), an admirable summary of the respective merits of the various methods of control that offers in one volume authoritative information that hitherto could only be found in articles distributed at random through a number of agricultural and scientific journals. M. F.

PEACH GROWING

JUSTIN BROOKE'S *Peach Orchards in England* (Faber, 7s. 6d.) is a straightforward account of a very considerable experience, undertaken by the author—the planting of a peach orchard, not of well-trained trees, but of normal bushy bush trees on his Clopton Hall Estate near Newmarket. Many gardeners have recounted, with pride, how trees can be grown, but few, if any, can be found that record the first account from a commercial fruit-grower of considerable experience. It is not a technical handbook but an admirably clear and detailed account of the author's cultural methods. It is also a book that will appeal as much to the amateur with only one or two trees as it will to the prospective commercial grower.

D. T. MACF.

SADLER'S WELLS BALLET

OVERS of ballet will welcome *Sadler's Wells Ballet at Covent Garden*, a book of fine photographs by Mervyn Severn (John Lane, 21s.), of recent productions by the Sadler's Wells Company, notable in the way it contains a variety of the ballets *Adonis*, *Zorba* and *Symphonie Variations*, as well as of the striking and moving *Miracle in the Gorbals*, and of two well-tried favourites—*The Sleeping Beauty* and *Rak's Progress*. J. K. A.

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FARMING NOTES

THE FARMERS' CHARTER

WITH the general blessing of the House of Commons the Agriculture Bill goes on its way to the Lords. There it will be subjected to expert scrutiny by those who know the atmosphere of the countryside much more intimately than most M.P.s. But this Bill is in principle an agreed measure. It is not merely a fancy piece in the Socialist shop window. As long ago as 1944, when Mr. Hudson was Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. Williams was Parliamentary Secretary, discussions were begun with the three partners in the farming industry on the broad basis of political agreement that the nation would need a vigorous agriculture after the war. It is common ground that if Parliament guarantees stability to the markets, farmers, landowners and farm labourers, it will guarantee efficient production. Most of the clauses in what has been called the Farmers' Charter are indeed the outcome of compromise between the N.F.U. and the C.L.A. Both organisations have shown considerable statesmanship in adjusting their ideas to the circumstances of the times and the political atmosphere.

Centralised Control

Some items in the Bill do, however, invite controversy. To the practical man there seems to be a foolish tendency to centralise control which probably originated in France. There is evidence of a pathetic faith in the wisdom of some civil servant who is the voice of "The Minister" to decide the right course in all difficulties. The Minister is to have powers to control cropping on every landowner's land by setting an acreage of tillage. The Minister is also to decide whether a landlord and tenant shall be allowed to part company. Really these are matters which are best decided by the men on the spot. Human nature being what it is, there will always be some differences of opinion, and the Bill will not affect for the Minister with only a file of papers to guide him is certainly not qualified to override local considerations. It seems to me that it would be much better to put the fullest possible responsibility on the representatives of farmers, landlords and farm workers in each county. This would be the surest way of building up throughout the industry the right spirit to make a success of this Bill. It will be fatal to allow the agricultural committees to develop as bureaucratic limbs of Whitehall dominated by their members in the civil service, and indirectly subservient to civil servants at headquarters. There is, I believe, real danger of the committee staffs becoming more interested in their civil service careers than in their real job, which is to help farmers on the road to even greater efficiency.

Tillage Acreages

THE Minister wants to maintain 10,000,000 acres of tillage cropping next year in England and Wales. He will have a hard job to do so. The present year's tillage acreage is 10,682,000 acres. The Government's intention apparently is not to direct the growth of particular crops such as wheat and potatoes, but to require farmers to grow an over-all acreage of tillage crops. This could be done by restricting the acreages of grass and clover leys on each farm. Certainly there are leys put down now three or four years ago that are not to come under the plough again for tillage cropping, but many farmers will not do this work unless they have orders from the local committee. Much lip service has been paid to the advantages of alternate

husbandry, tillage crops alternating with leys, and undoubtedly this is an excellent way on many soils of getting fertile conditions for producing wheat and potatoes and also healthy grazing for the tillage farms. The Committee about the future supply of labour. He sees the German prisoners going home, and he is doubtful about the wisdom of growing big acreages of crops like potatoes and sugar-beet that require much hand labour. The women and girls of the country are not content with lifting potatoes, but now-a-days many of the women are too much engaged waiting in queues or visiting the pictures to give a hand on the land, and the educationists consider that it is a shocking imposition on the budding school girl to be taken away from her school desk for a few days to help with potato lifting. The farmers and the terribly slow rate of house building in the rural areas make the future supply of agricultural labour highly problematical. If farmers are to grow a big acreage of tillage crops they want to know that the labour supply will meet their requirements satisfactorily. Mr. Williams will, I am afraid, have to overcome considerable resistance in getting his 10,000,000 acres of tillage crops next year.

Colorado Beetles

ON a hundred individual beetles were discovered and reported during the first week of this month. Most of these undesirable aliens were found in London and the suburbs and near the Kent coast. They must have travelled with imported cereals in ships. The Ministry of Agriculture says that very few of these Colorado beetles have so far been found on potatoes, but there is a big risk later in the season of serious outbreaks in the potato fields. Growers must keep an extra watchful eye on their crops during the next month. If any large-scale trouble is discovered, the affected crops must be sprayed to deal effectively with the infestation. The arrangements are all ready. We must hope that there will not be serious trouble, but the probability is that there will.

Another Call-Up

ALL the men who are in what is called "regular full-time agricultural employment" and who would ordinarily be called up for military service will be called up again, having their call-up suspended automatically. This applies also to those who have entered regular full-time agricultural employment within three months from the date of completion of whole-time general education. In other words, any man who has been in general farm work for three months or less since the call-up will be called up. But there is still the curious exception that those working in what are called "subsidiary agricultural occupations," for example pig men, poultry farmers, and fruit farm-workers, are to be called up. It is true that the cost of the transport of our feeding-stuffs supplies, the numbers of pigs and poultry have fallen sharply, but certainly we need to get a start now on the re-expansion of pigs, poultry and fruit, and these kinds of farming need to retain all their workers with useful experience.

Cattle on the Hills

TO encourage hill farmers to breed more hardy cattle a higher subsidy is to be given for breeding cows and heifers and suckling cattle on hill land. A distinction is made between "dabs" in the "hand" to particular types of farmers. Prices all round should be good enough to sustain full production on the hills as well as in the lowlands.

CINCINNATI.

ESTATE MARKET

PROPERTY DEALS
BY COLLEGES

THE Master, Fellows and Scholars of Trinity College, Cambridge, have sold the Sheldwich Manor, 391 acres, four miles from both Reigate and Dorking, Surrey. It will be dealt with, if not previously sold privately, as a whole or in lots. Mr. Norman Hodgkinson (Messrs. Smith and Sons and Messrs. Smith-Woolley and Son) say that the property produces over £8000 a year. The house and 12 acres are the subject of a lease until 1952, and the farm of 368 acres is let on a yearly tenancy; in fact, all the lots are similarly held.

From the details of title recited in the conveyance, it does not seem that the vendors have held Sheldwich very many years, for the greater part of the property was the subject of a conveyance by the Duke of Norfolk in 1930. College freeholders have a root of title going back to remote antiquity.

One of the conditions points to possibilities of mining and boring, as it reads as follows: "All mines and minerals and oils lying within and under the lands comprised in the said Conveyance of 28th day of May 1930, and all rights of conveyance with liberty for the said Duke of Norfolk and his assigns and the lessees from time to time of such mines and minerals and oils to win work get and carry away the same by underground working only without being liable to have any expense or erection thereon such liberty or rights to be exercised only on the condition that the person or persons exercising the same shall pay compensation for all damage caused by the exercise of such liberty."

King's College (University of London) has purchased the Chesham Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand. Messrs. Hampton and Sons were the vendors' agents.

THE TIED COTTAGE SYSTEM

THE so-called tied cottage system, the practice of a cottage being let to a labourer as a condition of his continuing in the service of a particular farmer, has been debated at the Labour Party Conference and condemned. It has been argued that no labourer, whether on a contract of service or on a tenancy basis, should be evicted without the provision beforehand of suitable alternative accommodation. The problem is left to the local authorities to the farming industry. Years ago it was acrimoniously discussed in connection with certain manufacturing firms.

NEARNESS TO PLACE OF WORK

THE objection to the system rests on the ground that a change of employment, from any cause, necessitates the loss of a man's place of abode. It is not easy to see how or why a willing worker on a farm should be denied the use of a cottage if it is agreed that another person who has agreed with him should enjoy it. As a rule farms are badly provided with cottages, yet it is essential that a farm labourer should live handy to the farm. The advocates of the abolition of the tied system want an amendment of the Rent Restriction Acts, measures that are often mentioned, except when they are to be amended against the interests of owners.

THE 1939 BASIS OF VALUATION

THAT the 1939 basis of valuation of property is out of date and operates unfairly has been recognised by the Government, in so far as the assessment of compensation for war damage is concerned. There may have

been a partial justification for the adoption of a 1939 datum in the earlier years of the war, but the inequitable character and the technical difficulties of valuing land and houses according to a standard fixed so long ago has caused an outcry that has resulted in the substitution of a system "more nearly" approaching "current market value."

Nothing has contributed to this amendment more than the fact that the very officials entrusted with the administration of the Acts have lately come out boldly with denunciations of the unfairness of relying on a real or financial valuation as at 1939, even if financial valuation existed as when its value was eight or nine years ago. In the intervening years properties and their environment have changed, most of them having greatly improved in price since 1942, and the real value of money has suffered a disastrous decline.

SUGGESTED CHANGE IN RENTAL BASIS

MANY correspondents have suggested that, since the 1939 basis has been abandoned in the valuation of property, it should be dropped as the datum for determining rents. Logically and practically this plan is unanswerable, but the prospect that it will receive a sufficiently powerful backing is remote. The fact that the owner of a house for which literally hundreds of substantial tenants would agree to pay a rent let it for £100 a year (because that happened to be the rent temporarily charged in a time of depression and doubt) may not seem to be a matter of public interest, or at least not of enough interest to induce officials to register public protests against it. In fact, all that can be said in favour of the "standard rent" (that is in the 1939 basis) is not seriously below the current value to-day.

The argument of our correspondents is that as the difficulty and unfairness of the 1939 basis has been acknowledged, the only damage it should be repealed in respect to rents. One reason why there is small likelihood of legislative action in the matter is that it involves the opening of a general review of the Rent Restriction Acts; another is the hostility of those who would be called upon to pay the rent. That hostility would carry with it a great weight of voting power. Yet another argument in favour of letting the question alone is the probability that, assuming the 1939 basis of "standard rents" was abandoned and rents were raised, there would be an immediate demand for higher wages to meet the cost.

SUB-LETTING BY "PROTECTED" TENANTS

IN the meanwhile the owners of houses that stand at greatly below their true rental value not only have to put up with the loss of a good part of the profit that could be had, but have the mortification of seeing the "protected" tenant making a substantial profit out of sub-letting. To-day, as during the war years, there are many "protected" tenants who receive more for one room of one floor than the owner can get for the whole house. But hard as it is in case of a single house, that of the owners of a block of flats is often much worse. Where rents included certain services the cost of materials and labour and the general expenses of repairing and maintaining the net return has failed to be wholly inadequate level. The most convincing proofs of this have been adduced, but there is no sign of legislative action to end or amend "standard" rents.

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BRITISH textiles, many of them launched at the British Industries Fair, are appearing in the big collections of the wholesalers now being held in London—clothes that will be in the shops in the early winter. The usual problems are still, also, before us, and the cloth is still desperately short and, with buyers from all over the world competing for it vigorously, the unfortunate women of this country will get little for some considerable time to come.

The corded silk from which Madame Champcommunal has designed the Worth dress (seen above) is one of the great successes of the season. It has a richness of texture and depth of colouring that make it the right medium for stiff, pleated skirts, balloon sleeves and magnificent evening coats. British chiffons, jerseys and velvets will be ready again in the autumn, and the effects of their texture on the line of the silhouettes will be seen in the collections of the Mayfair designers to be held at the end of next month in London. At the other end of the scale, there are some moss crépes with matt surfaces and excellent draping qualities in the utility ranges that have been styled with great distinction by many of the wholesalers, and some crisper weaves for the gored and gathered skirts. The afternoon dresses

A magnificent British rayon with a stiff corded surface that Worth made into a corsage picture gown with a wide, pleated skirt, full elbow sleeves and a cowl neckline.



NOTES ON SOME NEW FABRICS

throughout the collections are outstandingly good. The new, long day-skirt is charming, and for **■■■** and upwards there will be graceful dresses for every kind of figure.

Woollens stand out everywhere by reason of colour and quality, especially the jerseys. Rembrandt show a suede jersey for their elaborately draped dresses in parma violet and coral—a fine flexible fabric that makes up into highly sophisticated frocks. Ratine is a winter coating featured by Dereta that resembles our old friend pilot cloth. Covert coating has been revived by this house for suits. This strong favourite of the Edwardians has a smooth surface that tailors like and is a cloth that is almost impermeable. Wolsey are making tweed jerseys for tailored suits, thick, taut and in lovely combinations of heather and bracken colours. The jackets are fitted snugly at the waist and double seamed on the edges; the skirts pleated, sometimes all the way across the front, sometimes all round.

The Dorville collection features the tiny waist and the hour-glass figure, obtained by stiffening the wide or swathed belts and building up the hips of both

(Continued on page 1182)



Platine for coats, snug and rounded at the back, as long in front that it can be looped up over the arms. Melba

(Left) Below in white fox with ornate bell sleeves. Melba



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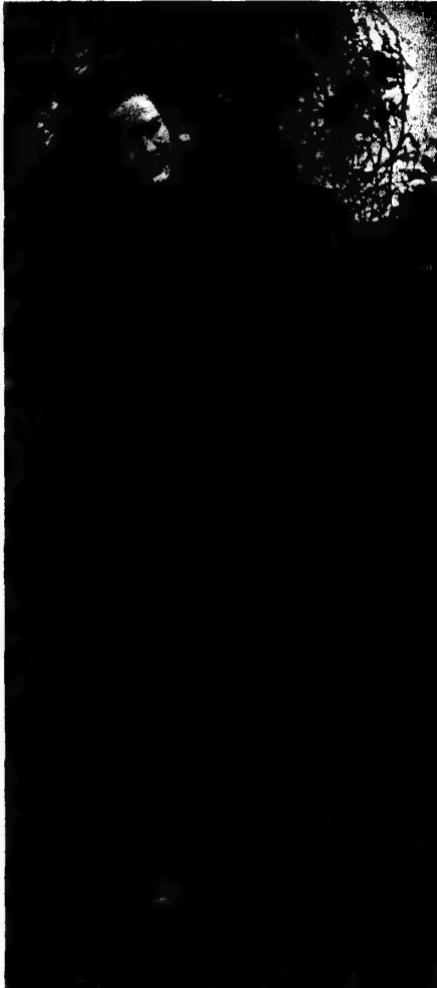
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JENNERS
LONDON



(Left) Gold cell necklace with a clip of diamonds and rubies and a gold ribbon; (Right) a diamond bracelet. (Below) Tricelle cell bracelet that can be worn without the jewelled clip.
Asprey

the jackets and skirts with canvas. For formal occasions they use a pliable, silk jersey which they design as three clinging dinner frocks, short in the skirt, with drapery on the bodice or on the hipline, and cape sleeves, in dark bottle green or tobacco brown. Another material they are launching for the winter is a hopsack woollen that is woven with a small proportion of rayon to eke out supplies. This is an attractive fabric that tailors well, is thick, without being clumsy, and definitely warm. Dorville show it for some simple, youthful day dresses with slightly gathered skirts, tight inlet waistbands and square collarless necklines.

TWEEDS at this house are classic in colouring, mostly herring-bone in two shades of brown. Coats have big armholes, flares in the back and a general bulky look. The longer skirt appears throughout,

even on the eight-gored tweed suits. Delightful plaids in mixtures of dark green and blue make dresses and suits with full skirts, worn over starched petticoats, like the picturesque children in Victorian story-books.

A striped jersey is a novelty fabric in the Marcus collection; they show it for some pencil-skirt dresses with big pockets, in brown with a warm beige or yellow, and in three-eighths-of-an-inch stripes. Bird's-eye and honeycomb jerseys are attractive in clear, pale grey blues and in a lovely shade of lavender. Bottle green makes one of the best two-pieces in the collection—a tailored jacket in a fine smooth woollen over a plain dress with a draped effect on one side of the hips. These winter greens look extremely new and are being bought heavily. The coming winter is likely to be remembered as the year when bottle green returned to triumph. Marcus show

a dust coat, straight, and with a fly-front fastening and a turn-down collar in a smooth, neatly patterned worsted over a tailored frock. A pleated back is the only decoration on one tailored frock. A gathered tunic effect, set at the back only, breaks the severity of a line of a dead plain tobacco brown afternoon crépe. The collection as a whole has great simplicity of line. Tight skirts go with very simple tailored coats. Materials and colours are both subtle and distinctive.

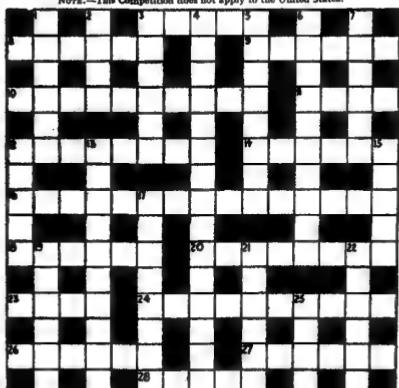
The sooty bottle green is in reality a sooty tone than the colour which used to be known as "bottle," made like a lichen green. Wild rice is the nostalgic name given by Joyce to their stone-off white shoes for next autumn, a subtle shade, pale yet glowing at the same time. Tiger is the tawny, vibrant orange, also used for sports shoes.

R. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

CROSSWORD No. 906

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions in a closed envelope must reach "Crossword No. 906, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Thursday, June 26, 1947.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



Name _____
(Mr., Mrs., etc.)

Address _____

SOLUTION TO No. 905. The winner of this Crossword, the class of which appeared in the issue of June 13, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Cheddar Gorge; 8, Relic; 9, Nickname; 11, Steadily; 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, Easier; 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, Iwan; 22, Alderman; 23, Nodding; 24, Bawdy; 27, Shallow stream.

DOWN.—1, Colleen; 2, Excellency; 3, Dignity; 4, Recalled; 5, Owain; 6, Gymnas; 7, Presbyterian; 10, Second eleven; 13, 4, Debonair; 16, Raillery; 18, Plantain; 20, Magician; 21, Test-set; 24, Veru.

ACROSS

3. A photographic repository, perhaps (5)
8. Follower of the Prophet (6)
9. Plate or chintz? (6)
10. Reserved for special occasions, indeed very (5)
11. The Jan should make it sweet (4)
12. Anticipate the verdict (8)
14. A champagne occasion (6)
16. Dogs from the Dukeries (7, 8)
18. Ill is bound to give water (6)
20. Given up search for it is ill the shops (8)
23. "Not that fair field
Of _____, where Proserpina gathering flowers
Herself a fairer by gloomy Dis
Was gathered."—Milton (4)
24. The _____ (longagr.) (10)
26. Stir up our sea (6)
27. It should be shady enough almost for repose (6)
28. "Trusty, _____, vivid, true,
With eyes of gold and bramble-dew."

—R. L. Stevenson (5)

DOWN

1. To treat *Lily* thus may cause a to-do (6)
2. A piece of chocolate rather than a piece of rock-cake (4)
3. Entertained or in the morning made use of? (6)
4. Capital growth from Belgium (8, 7)
5. Male as far as the first letter but all for female adoration (8)
6. Hardly professional (10)
7. _____ in the reading (4)
12. After concluding them the next step is to? (5)
13. What grows up is? (7, 3)
15. Don't delay in making it (8)
17. How a picture may be buried in print? (8)
19. Room supplying a cooking utensil and invitit experiment (8)
21. To do this is not, as you might suppose, the function of an infestation officer (6)
22. A rent in the ecclesiastical fabric (6)
25. River trophie (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 904 is

Mr. Robert M. Gove,

129, Balnagask Road,

Aberdeen.

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of over half
a century is
expressed in
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Daly's

All silk crepe Suzette blouse by henri £7 10 4 and
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no approval but sample of materials sent on request.

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CONVERSATION

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CI No. 2832

JUNE 27, 1947

1436
321th

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

AN AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT

BETWEEN NORTHAMPTON AND MARKET HARBOUROUGH. 8 MILES FROM KETTERING FREEHOLD AGRICULTURAL AND VILLAGE PROPERTIES AT MAIDWELL

ABOUT 897 ACRES PRODUCING OVER £1,100 PER ANNUM

Comprising DALE FARM AND MAIDWELL LODGE, a compact agricultural and sporting property with two stock and mixed farms, three blocks of farm buildings and 449 acres, including shooting and fishing in Dale Wood and Dale Pond.

Also School Farm of 186 acres, Rectory Farm of 47 acres, a useful 77-acre block of farmland. Elm Farm Cottages, building and pasture Valuable arable land of 33 acres with road frontage. Estate yard with buildings, a block of three cottages. A semi-detached cottage.

A 24-acre arable enclosure and 72 acres of pasture land both with long road frontages.

For Sale by Auction as a whole or in 12 Lots at an early date (unless previously sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. WILLIAMS & JAMES, Norfolk House, Norfolk Street, W.C.2.

Land Agents: Messrs. FRANK NEWMAN & SON, 34, Savile Row, W.1. Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (Particulars 1/-)

ASHDOWN FOREST. 5 MILES EAST GRINSTEAD CHELWOOD CORNER, 212 ACRES

A RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY

The modern Country House stands high on a southern slope with magnificent views.

Panelling hall, 4 reception, 7 best bed and dressing rooms, 4 well-appointed bathrooms. Co.'s water. Main electricity. Central heating. Beautiful terraced grounds of great charm. Garage and stabling with flat over.

Auctioneers: Messrs. TURNER RUDGE & TURNER, East Grinstead, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (Particulars 1/-).

SURREY. LONDON 20 MILES Close to village and bus. Main line station 2 miles

The Attractive
JACOBEAN RESIDENCE
(1604) is erected of mellowed
narrow red brick and stands
about 330 ft. up on sandy soil
facing South in a sheltered
position on the southern side
of the North Downs.

Approached by 2 drives, each with
Lodge at entrance. Lounge and
inner halls, 5 reception rooms
(4 panelled), billiards room, 23
bedrooms, 7 bathrooms. Central
heating. Main electricity.

Gas available. Telephone.
Spring water supply (free).

Sole Agents: Messrs. WATKIN & WATKIN, Reigate and Tonbridge, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (15,016).

KENT. LONDON 30 MILES Sevenoaks 5 miles. Adjacent to village and bus service. 558 feet up with panoramic views

The Residence, built of brick, is conveniently arranged on two floors.

Lounge hall, 5 reception, 11
bedrooms, nurseries, 4 bath-
rooms. Companied electricity
and water. Separate hot-
water system, central heat-
ing. Modern drainage.

Stabling, garage, lodge.
7 cottages in hand.
Secondary residence let.

The gardens are artistically
laid out, with extensive lawns,
2 tennis courts. Farmland.
Nursery and fruit plantations,
meadow and arable land.

Independent hot-water system.

Modern Drainage.

Ample Stabling and
Garages. 3 Flats over.

FARMERY

The Matured Gardens
are shaded by some fine trees,
lawn, slope, drives, lakes,
tennis courts, 2 walled kitchen
gardens, orchards and paddocks.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE
WITH ABOUT 30 ACRES

Vacant Possession of the whole
except two Paddocks

FOR SALE WITH ABOUT 50 ACRES

Sole Agents: Messrs. DANIEL WATNEY, ELOART, INMAN & NUNN, The Charterhouse, Charterhouse Square, E.C.1, and
Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (8,471)

Maple 3771
(15,016)

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MAYFAIR 2316/7

CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, LEEDS, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

COOKHAM DEAN, BERKSHIRE

27 miles London.

OLD-WORLD RESIDENCE OF GREAT CHARACTER



In beautiful surroundings, 200 ft. above sea level. Near bus route and within one mile of station. Garden and orchard, in all about

1 ACRE

Spacious entrance hall, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, 14 ft. and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, Aga cooker.

Co.'s electricity and water. Central heating. Garage and outbuildings.

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1 (Mayfair 2316/7).

COTSWOLDS

Cirencester 7 (Cheltenham 3 miles)

SUBSTANTIAL STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

with unrivaled view to the Bristol Channel and Welsh Hills.

Accommodation comprises hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms (3 fitted basins), 2 bathrooms, compact offices. Garage. Garage. Gardens and paddock. In all about: 5 ACRES. Main services. Central heating. Telephone.

FOR SALE WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Full details from
JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester. Tel. 234/5. (Vols. No. No. 445).

By direction of the Rt. Hon. Lord Biddulph.

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

WEST END HOUSE

Culverton, near Tidbury, Glos.

Tidbury 34 miles, Cirencester 7 miles.

Attractive Cotswold stone-built Residence with 3 reception rooms, cloakrooms, 6 principal bed and dressing rooms, nursery, 3 servants' bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, usual offices. Garage. Stabling. Barn cottage. Electric light. Radiator. Pratty gardens. Paved terrace. In all about 6 1/2 ACRES

which
Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS (Cirencester) will submit to Auction, on Friday, July 11, 1947, at 2 p.m. by appointment. Particulars from the Land Agents: W. M. TOMLINSON, Esq., 82, St. James's, London, S.W.1, or the Auctioneers: Mr. WALTER H. WALKER, 10, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1, or the Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS (Cirencester), Cirencester, Glos.

A Stately Manor House 10 miles S.E. from Oxford

In a perfect setting near a lovely village.



Halls, 5 reception rooms, billiards room, 18 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

Lovely gardens with a series of ponds. Cottage. Bothy, garage, stabling and usual outbuildings.

About 32 ACRES
JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1
(Mayfair 2316/7).

NORTH DEVON

Bideford 4 miles and Tiverton 8 miles.
STURMIDGE ESTATE of some 200 ACRES
in one of the most lovely parts of Devon.

Comprising the pleasant

late Georgian House, con-

siderable grounds, 5

bedrooms, hall and 4 re-

ception rooms, dining room,

etc. Garage and stable

block. Excellent

Halls, 18 bed and

bathrooms, Aga cooker.

VACANT POSSESSION
OF COMPLETION OF
THE PURCHASE.

AUCTION JULY 4, 1947

DENNIS BERRY & CO., Broad Street, Reading.
Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS, 8, Hanover Street (Tel. 2316/7);
NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading, and at Albany Court Yard,
Blaenall, W.1.

By direction of Major W. T. P. Bryce.

THE BRIDGE HOUSE,
LECHLADE, GLOS.

(on borders of Oxon)

Swindon Junction 11 miles, Oxford 22, Cirencester 13 miles.

Modernized Cotswold Georgian Residence. Lounge hall, 2 sitting rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 good attics, bathroom. Excellent outbuildings (modern 12 ft. 2 inns). Ancient dove-cote. Walled garden. Temple court. Orchard. Paddock, in all about 3 ACRES. Main electricity, gas and water.

Auction July 11 (unless privately sold).

Joint Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester,
and MOORE, ALLEN & INNOCENT, Lechlade.

KENT COAST

Private gate to the beach. All rooms facing south to the sea.

GEORGIAN
RESIDENCE

Halls, 5 reception rooms, 18 bed and 2 dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, good kitchens.

All main services. Central heating. Good decorative rooms. Old oak dining room, four-poster bed. One-man garden with hard tennis court, over

2 ACRES



Bole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1
(Mayfair 2316/7).

Grosvenor 3121
(3 lines)

WINKWORTH & CO.

46, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1

The subject of an illustrated article in the "Surrey County Magazine."

SUSSEX

In beautiful country, on a hill end with glorious views to the south. Bus service passes.

A RESTORED STUART MANOR HOUSE

In first-class order throughout, reached by a drive, and containing a quantity of lovely old panelling, carvings and other period features.



RETAINING ITS 17TH CENTURY
CHARACTER, THE RESIDENCE
IS NOW REPLETE WITH 20TH
CENTURY CONVENiences, IN-
CLUDING FITTED BASINS IN
BEDROOMS, CENTRAL HEATING,
AND MAIN WATER AND ELEC-
TRICITY.

Seven best bedrooms, dressing room,
2 bathrooms, 4 staff bedrooms, sitting
hall and 3 reception rooms.

Stabling, garage and cottage, also lodge.
The delightful old gardens and grounds
are finely timbered, include walled
kitchen garden, excellent hard tennis
court and parkland bounded by a
stream.

FOR SALE WITH ABOUT 87 ACRES PRICE 36,000 GUINEAS.

Inspected and recommended by the Owner's Agents: WINKWORTH & CO., 46, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.



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By order of Trustees and Executrix.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

450 ft. above sea level, 10 miles from Tunbridge Wells.

THE ROADMASTER COURT

Sumptuously appointed Freehold Residence: 3 reception rooms and a billiards room, 12 bed and dressing, numerous, bathrooms, central and independent hot-water installations. Main dining room, (seats 20), (seats 12), (seats 8), garage, stable, garden, grounds, etc.

Gardens and grounds, including 12 clumps shrubberies and trees. Kitchen gardens, orchards and arable land with valuable road frontage, in all nearly 150 ACRES.

For Sale by Auction, at the Auction Rooms, Tunbridge Wells, S.W.4, on Wednesday, July 22, 1947, at 2.30 p.m. (unless sold privately).

Joint Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 27 and 29, High Street, Tunbridge Wells; HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

**HANTS-SUSSEX BORDERS**

Choice position close to the Downs and convenient for Portsmouth.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD**THE PICTURESQUE SMALL HOUSE**

With its accommodation on two floors.

Arable and orchard land fully appointed.

Lounge about 22 ft., dining-room, etc., model offices: 2 bedrooms, fitted basins, many fitted wardrobe cupboards: 2 luxury bathrooms.

Central heating, main services.

Garage.

Most attractive gardens. In all about 3 Acres.

Adjoining open spaces.

Sole Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (H.34314)

**MILFORD-ON-SEA, HANTS**

Between Bournemouth and Southampton.

With views of Isle of Wight and Dorset coast.

DELIGHTFULLY SITUATED SEASIDE HOUSE

right on the front: 3½ reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, bathroom and compact office.

Main service.

Garage and nice gardens of over 1 ACRE.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE £4,000

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (H.34314)



Of interest to City and West End Business-men and others.

EPSOM, SURREY

1½ miles from Town, 1½ miles from st. up.

"COOPER HALL"

MODERN TWO-STORYED RESIDENCE
Oak panelled hall, 2 charming reception rooms, loggia, 7 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 pantries, 2 bathrooms, etc. All public areas carpeted. Main staircase. Good reception. Lovely pleasure gardens and grounds.

In all ½ ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION

For Sale by Auction as a whole or in two lots at the St. James's Estate Rooms, S.W.1, on Thursday, July 17, at 2.30 p.m. (unless sold privately).

Joint Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1; and HARRIS & GILLOW, 6, Warwick Street, W.1.

**BLETCHINGFOLD****UNIQUE HOUSE IN SURREY**
500 ft. up. Wonderful views embracing five counties.

In BEAUTIFUL CONDITION, WITH POSSESSION

"HILL TOP" PILGRIMS WAY

with built-in furniture and fittings. Three reception, 8 bedrooms, a bath, ultra modern offices, sun lounge, dining room, loggia, 2 pantries, 2 bathrooms, etc. Central heating and constant hot-water installations. Gravel soll. Garage for 4 cars. Cottage. Beautiful pleasure gardens and grounds.

Additional land up to 120 acres available.
For Sale by Auction, at the Auction Rooms, St. James's Estate Rooms, S.W.1, on Friday, July 18, at 2.30 p.m. (unless sold privately).

Joint Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1; and HARRIS & GILLOW, 6, Warwick Street, W.1.



By direction of Mrs. House.

ON THE NOTED**HATFIELD PARK ESTATE**

Close to the quaint village with bus service and close to Hatfield Station.

"THE COTTAGE" EBBENBROOK

Unique and charming residence with beautiful views. Excellent reproduction of Sussex Cottage-style of Residence. Hall, lounge, loggia, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, offices, garage, etc. Large garden, etc. Large garage, etc. Miniature garden house, garage, chauffeur's room, heated glasshouses.

Plenty of gardens, orchard, kitchen garden, meadow, etc.

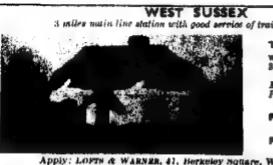
In all about 7 ACRES, WITH POSSESSION.

For Sale privately or by Auction on July 17, 1947.
Advertisers: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (Tel. WIN. 0081) & BISHOP'S STORTFORD (Tel. 843)

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3 miles main line station with good service to Victoria.

3 miles main line station with good service to Victoria.



6 miles from the sea at Teignmouth, 10 from Brixham.

CORNWALL

Stone-built house in beautiful surroundings. 4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, etc.

Male electricity and water.

Power, gas, etc.

Detachable garage.

Price £2,500.

PREMIUM FOR SALE

PRICE £3,000.

WINDSOR, BUCKS**FREEHOLD FOR SALE**

PRICE £3,000.

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Apply: LOFTS & WARNER, 41, Berkeley Square, W.1 (Gram. 3056).

Report
4264

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

88, ALBEMARLE ST.,
PICCADILLY, W.1IN ONE OF THE LOVELIEST REACHES
OF THE THAMES

To Be Sold.

The Well Known and Historical
Monkey Islandincluding the delightful Residence known as
The Temple and the fully licensed Monkey
Island HotelTHE RESIDENCE, surrounded by finely timbered
gardens and grounds, includes entrance hall, 8 bedrooms,
3 large reception, kitchen, maid's room, 2 bathrooms, 4 w.c.s.THE HOTEL contains cocktail and beer bars, public
dining room, 3 other sitting rooms, above, 11 bedrooms,
bathroom, etc.

Early Possession can be obtained.

Electric light. Central heating. Private Ferry.

On the mainland are 2 cottages, 3 garages, and
about an acre of kitchen gardens, the whole property
extending to

ABOUT 6 ACRES

THERE IS A TOTAL FRONTAGE TO THE RIVER
OF ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF A MILE, PROVIDING
FIRST-CLASS FACILITIES FOR BOATING, BATH-
ING AND FISHING.Full details from the sole Agents: OSBORN & MERCER,
as above. (17,765)

IN THE HEART OF EXMOOR

Occupying a unique situation, facing south and commanding
extensive views.

The exceptionally attractive Property

Known as

WINSFORD GLEBE, NEAR MINEHEAD
designed by and erected under the supervision of an
architect.Three reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, attic
rooms.

COTTAGE FARM BUILDINGS

Range of stabling and garages.
Delightful ornamental gardens, parklike grounds,
tennis court, croquet lawn, etc., in all
ABOUT 60 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

Joint Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above, and
Messer. CHANIN & THOMAS, 1, Hanover Street, Minclefield,
Kensington.

WEST BYFIELD

Enjoying all the benefits of beautiful country life within 85
minutes of London, and with all modern facilities.

A DELIGHTFUL MODERN HOUSE

An excellent order and ready for immediate occupation.

Dining room, drawing room, 7 bedrooms, bathroom.

All modern services. Lever garage.

Charming setting, 100 acres, orchard, etc.

ABOUT 1 ACRE

FOR SALE WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Sole Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,980)

PINNER

In a first-class residential area 12 miles from the West End.

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

Built within 20 years ago and occupying a quiet posi-
tion.

Three reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom.

All main services. Double Garage.

Delightful garden of about ONE-THIRD OF AN ACRE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD, EARLY POSSESSION.

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,860)

NEAR TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Delightfully situated in a quiet and richly wooded
country.

AN OLD TUDOR FARMHOUSE

which has been modernised and added to.

Four reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 8 bathrooms.

Main services. Central heating.

Bungalow, garage, stable, etc., with flat.

The gardens and grounds extend to ABOUT 5 ACRES
with ornamental trees and shrubs, kitchen garden,
orchard, etc.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,980)

3, MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W.1

SUSSEX

FASCINATING SMALL HOUSE OF CHARM AND
CHARACTERbeautifully situated in its grounds of about
35 ACRESFormerly an old Sussex barn skilfully enlarged and
modernised. Five bed and dressing rooms. 8 bathrooms
and all modern appointments. Kitchen, etc., including
staff rooms. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, and reception
room. Garage for a car, stable, etc. Main electric
light, central heating, etc. Water. Matted grass, etc.FREEHOLD £12,000
House, garage, stable, etc., carpet, curtains,
household, Prudential, electric lighting, etc.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

Sole Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3 Mount Street, W.1.

BETWEEN GODALMING AND WITNEY

Addition, Wed Surrey Golf Club. Superb position, 400 ft.
up. Lovely views.

OUTSTANDING MODERN HOUSE OF

In perfect order. Ten bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 8 delightful
reception rooms, sun room, enclosed by glass.Central heating. Main electric light, water, gas, etc.
In all about 54 ACRES
FREEHOLD £18,000

Ralph Pay & Taylor, as above.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Opposite
1038-33

WEST SUSSEX

Pulborough, 3 miles. Unique position on crest of hill. Lovely
views of South Downs and surrounding country. In rear route
BISHOP MODERN HOUSE OF PERFECTIONLabour saving in every detail and ready for immediate
occupation. Large drawing room, 4 bedrooms, 3 reception
rooms, and lounge hall, stable, sitting room.CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN ELECTRICITY AND
WATER. MATTED GRASS, ETC. STYLING, ETC.Two garages. Pretty gardens well stocked and inexpensive
to maintain.In an about 80 ACRES
FREEHOLD £10,000

With well with furniture and effects.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, above.

SUFFOLK

Newbury St. Edmunds.

CHOICE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

In parklike grounds of about 35 ACRES

DISTINCTIVE AND WELL-APPOINTED HOUSE
in delightful setting. Spacious and well-planned accommoda-
tion, 4 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, 3 bathrooms, central heating, etc.Excellent stabling, garage, 2 cottages. Beautifully timbered
gardens and grounds.

FREEHOLD £18,000

Sole Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

BETWEEN LINCOLN AND MARKET RASEN

Bus service to Lincolnshire. Fine views of the
Lincolnshire Wolds. Metal roof house.

PLEASING OLD GEORGIAN HOUSE

Nestled amid poplars.

Three reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.

MAIN WATER, ELECTRICITY, OIL, UNDER
A MILK. CENTRAL HEATING.Extremely redecorated throughout. Garage, stable, cottage
(3 rooms), etc., with all modern conveniences, paddock.

In all 67 ACRES

Almost surrounded by woodland.

FREEHOLD £20,000 plus chancery
FREEHOLD £10,000 plus chancery.

POSITION ON CONSTRUCTION

Sole Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

KENT: CANTERBURY—MARGATE AREA

Private Hotel, Country Club, Restaurant and Tea Gardens

MAIN ROAD POSITION

Club houses, garage, 6 bedrooms, bathroom, 21 fire
places, room for office, shop, etc. Prolific
kitchen garden and fruit trees.

In all nearly 100 ACRES

A most attractive position.

FREEHOLD £8,750

Unique opportunity, immediate sale required.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

F. L. MERCER & CO.

Report 2461

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

IN THE COTSWOLDS

Typical period residence with Model Farmery.



£16,000 WITH 16 ACRES

F. L. MERCER, Neckville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Report 2461.

stone-built and labour-
saving, in first-class order.Five bed (buses), 3 baths,
3 rec. rooms, maid's room,
Main electric light, Central
heating. Excellent build-
ings. Inexpensive gardens.

Land mostly pasture.

AN HISTORIC MANSION IN NORTH ESSEX

Suitable for business or institutional purposes.



35 ACRES £17,000 OR OFFER

F. L. MERCER & CO., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Report 2461.

184, BROMPTON ROAD
LONDON, S.W.3

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDY

Kensington
2462-3

HEREFORDSHIRE

SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL

BEAUTIFUL 14th-CENTURY MANOR HOUSE MODERNISED

Lounge hall, 5 fire reception, 8 bed, 2 dressing, 8 baths.

CENTRAL HEATING, ELECTRICITY, GRAVITATION WATER.

Lovely but quite inexpensive gardens, hard and grass tennis courts, well stocked
Stabling, garage, farmery, 2 picture cottages.

50 ACRES PASTURE.

Hunting, 4 paces, shooting, fishing.

FREEHOLD ONLY £50,000

Large, lofty and well-
proportioned rooms, all
modern conveniences.

Central heating. Telephone.

Three rec. rooms, excellent kitchen,
etc. 5 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.

Land mostly pasture.

Gardens.

Beautiful gardens, large

lovely houses, lovely

trees, copper beeches, etc.

Fully stocked farm.

dairies, etc.

All in a perfect order.

Immediate possession.

FREEHOLD £7,500

KENT COAST
LOVELY HOUSE IN PERFECT ORDER

Extremely spacious and perfectly proportioned.

Grosvenor 1863
(H.M.V.)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1776)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

FAVOURITE PART OF SURREY

Important agricultural and residential estate, comprising
AN AREA OF 1,000 ACRES.

completely renovated and modernised containing 10 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, lounge hall, 8 reception rooms. Modern domestic offices. All main services. New electric central-heating system. Septic tank drainage. 3 cottages (two recently rebuilt) with garages, etc. Garage, stable, etc. Kitchen garden, etc. Tennis court, etc. Home Farm with attractive farmhouse, bungalow, buildings with sowstalls for 20.

IN ALL ABOUT 117 ACRES

(more land can be purchased or rented adjoining.)

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

All further particulars of the above to Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (D.1817)

URGENT SALE DESIRED

15TH-CENTURY BATTLE AND DAUB COTTAGE

50 miles North of London, with a fine view of Canterbury, Bedford and Huntingdon.

Situated in a village, two miles from main line station.

Usable as one or two residences.

containing 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge (25 ft. 3 in. by 14 ft. 6 in.), with modern oak floor, 2 reception rooms, dining room, kitchen, etc. Central heating, electric cooker. Main water and electricity. Garage for 2 cars. Well-kept grounds include lawns, flower, fruit and vegetable gardens, in all about $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRES.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, as above. (D.1815)

Robert Place, Eaton Sq.,
West Halkin St.,
and St. James's St.,
and St. Victoria St.,
Westminster, S.W.1

FINEST POSITION NEAR REIGATE

1 mile from station.

London 25 minutes.

DISTINCTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

Containing 6-7 bedrooms,

2 baths, lounge hall,

2 reception rooms.

In first-rate order.

ALL MAIN SERVICES.

Garage (2 cars), garden

house, Outbuildings.

Teraced garden with sun-

nials court.

ABOUT 1 ACRE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, as above. (D.1815)

SALISBURY
(Tel. 2491)

WOOLLEY & WALLIS

and at RINGWOOD
& ROMSEY

WILTS—HANTS BORDERS

8 miles south of Salisbury.

TO LET UNFURNISHED (for Private Occupation)

PICTURESQUE RESIDENCE ON EDGE OF GENTLEMAN'S ESTATE

Hall, 4 reception, 12 bed-
rooms (including servants' rooms and wing suitable for
servant flats), 4 bathrooms.

Stabling for 3 horses.

Garages.

2 or probably 6 ACRES

Main electricity.

Rental £500 per annum.

Available now.

Particulars of the above properties from WOOLLEY & WALLIS, The Castle Auction Mart, Salisbury (Tel.: Salisbury 2491/2/3), and at Romsey, and Ringwood, Hants.

WYLYE VALLEY

10 miles Salisbury, 6 from Warminster.

GENTLEMAN'S MOST ATTRACTIVE MODERATE SIZED RESIDENCE
OF CHARACTER

in one of the most delightful situations in the Valley

Hall, cloakroom, 3 recep-
tion rooms, offices, 4 bed-
rooms (basins h. and c.),
bath, 2 w.c.s.

Garage.

Unusually lovely gardens,
beautifully kept.

Main electricity.

Possession October or
probably earlier.

ALFRED PEARSON & SON

FLEET, HANTS. Tel.: HIR

And at
FARNBOROUGHOwner going abroad.
In a quiet old village in the heart of unspoilt Hampshire. Two miles main line station
and 11 miles Reading."ROTHERWICK HOUSE," ROTHERWICK
TUDOR STYLE RESIDENCE WITH MODERN CONVENiencesRich in oak beams and
studdings and open fire-
places.Linen 25 ft. x 17 ft. 10 in.,
writing room, dressing room
and study, compact offices,
7 bed and dressing rooms
and 2 bathrooms. Mainelectricity and water. Large
garage and workshop. The
garden has been planned
for easy maintenance.FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION
Auction July 5, 1947 (unless sold privately).

By order of The Public Trustee.

"WYMERING LODGE," FARNBOROUGH PARK, Hants
THIS ATTRACTIVE REPRODUCTION OF AN OLD WELSH FARM HOUSE
occupies a secluded position in grounds of about 5 ACRESPrincipal suite with bed-
room (enb), bathroom
and dressing room. 3 other
bedrooms, second bath-
room, gallery landing and
imposing hall, loggia, 2
reception rooms, cloak-
room and usual offices.
Garage and stabling.

All main services.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION
Auction July 18, 1947 (unless sold privately) with Messrs. FOX
AND SMALLBONE, High Street, Camberley.TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1
Grosvenor 1861. Telegrams: "Corallumens, London."

LINCNS

3½ miles. Superb. Strategically placed on rise
of Woods under wooded hill.THIS CHARMING GEORGIAN
RESIDENCE

In first-class order.

Three reception, 3 bath, 7-12 bed
(part suitable to cut off as staff cottage).
MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL
HEATING. TAP WATER. EXCELLENT
WATER.

Garage, stabling, barn, etc.

Attractive gardens and other lawns,
kitchen garden, orchard and paddock and
parklike pasture.26 ACRES £7,000 FREEHOLD
TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1
(D.1717)

WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAIGRAVE STREET, READING. Heading 2520 and 4112.

OTTED. Exceptional value in this picturesquely and much-favoured location.
A CHARMING TUDOR REPRODUCTION with oak paneling, beams, doors
and floors, leaded light windows and standing amidst beautifully wooded gardens.
Gated entrance. Large hall, 4 reception rooms, dining room, kitchen, etc.
Central heating, Aga cooker, main, Garage, cottage and 6 ACRES. FREEHOLD
£6,700.BLACKWELL. A SPLENDID HOUSE with spacious apartments secluded but
near station. Three reception, 6 bed (2 baths), bath. Main, partial central
heating. Garage, delightful gardens. 2 ACRES. FREEHOLD £6,000 OR NEARLY.BERKE. 40 minutes London. A SITTING OLD QUEEN ANNE HOUSE
in first-class condition. Cloaks, 8 sitting, 9 bed, 4 bath. Central heating, main
servicing. Garage, stabling, 2 cottages. 7 ACRES. FREEHOLD £8,000.B. SURREX. 10 miles from coast, in lovely country. A FINE OLD TUDOR
FARMHOUSE. Cloaks, 8 reception, 9 bed, 6 bath. Central heating, main
servicing. Garage, cottage. 7 ACRES. FREEHOLD £10,000 OR NEARLY FOR
QUICK SALE.GLOB. 10 miles from coast. A CHARMING OLD GEORGIAN HOUSE close to a common, 800 ft. up.
Four bed, 6 bath. Central heating, main electricity. Garage, stabling,
2 cottages. 3½ ACRES. FREEHOLD £10,000.Full particulars of the above from WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO., 17, Blaigraive Street,
Reading. Heading 2520 and 4112.AMIDST LOVELY FOREST COUNTRY
KENT-SUSSEX BORDER. Bus service passes. VERY ATTRACTIVE
CHARACTER RESIDENCE, 4 reception, 5 bath, 6-10 bed and dressing rooms.
Central heating, main, Garage, etc. Other buildings, including a
modern bungalow, east house. Delightful grounds over 2 ACRES.
Hard tennis court, kitchen and fruit gardens, etc. FREEHOLD. FOR SALE.
TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (D.1717)

5, MOUNT ST.
LONDON, W.1

CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 8185 (8 lines)
Rathbone 1875

By order of Executors.

THE LOWER EATON ESTATE, NEAR HEREFORD

Six miles west of Hereford. Salmon Fishing rights in the River Wye.

FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AGRICULTURAL
ESTATE.

ATTRACTIVE LATE GEORGIAN HOUSE

Medium size. Excellent order.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT. AMPLE WATER
SUPPLY.Garages. Stabling. Lodge. Cottages.
Charming gardens with magnificent timber.

For Sale by Auction at Hereford on August 16 next as a whole or in Lots (unless previously disposed of privately).

Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. RUSSELL, BALDWIN & BRIGST, LTD., Hereford (2164), and Messrs. CURTIS & HENSON, 5 Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1.

Est. 1790

DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON

Tel: Newbury 1

BETWEEN NEWBURY AND WANTAGE



UNIQUE SMALL MILL HOUSE

Modernised and in village. Main water and light. Two bedrooms, bathroom (b. and c.), 8 sitting rooms, kitchen, etc. Barn. Cottage adjoining (let on service tenancy).

Attractive garden. PRICE £4,500. 1/2 ACRES

PRICE £4,500

Agents: DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON, as above.

BERKS.—WILTS. BORDERS

Between Newbury and Marlborough, adjoining a private estate.

MIXED FARM OF 225 ACRES
SWALM MODERNISED HOUSE

Three cottages and buildings. Additional 470 acres arable and woodland available, the whole forming an ATTRACTIVE SPORTING ESTATE.

FOR SALE AS A WHOLE OR SEPARATELY
Agents: DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON, as above.

NEWBURY

Near the town in a residential part.

NICE OLD-FASHIONED HOUSE

MONT STURABE FOR PRIVATE HOTEL, NURSERY
MANOR OR FOR PRIVATE RESIDENCE

Ten bedrooms, 8 sitting rooms, 5 dining rooms, offices, all main services, radiators. Garages. Well-kept garden

ONE ACRE

EARLY POSSESSION. PRICE £7,500. OPEN TO
OFFER

Agents: DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON, as above.

BERKSHIRE

In a village near Newbury.



DELIGHTFUL SMALL CHARACTER HOUSE

In good order. Central heating throughout. Main service. His. bedroom, parlour, kitchen, 3 reception rooms, dining room, 2 sitting rooms, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1/2 acre. PRICE £2,500. 1/2 ACRES

For Sale Privately or Auction Inter.

Joint Agents: DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON, as above; or Messrs. ALLSOP & CO., 21, Soho Square, London.

SEVENOAKS 2247-8
TUNBRIDGE WELLS 46
REIGATE 2938 and 3793

IBBETT, MOSELEY, CARD & CO.

SEVENOAKS, KENT
TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT
OTTERY, KENT
REIGATE, SURREY

SEVENOAKS 2 MILES

600 feet above sea level commanding views to the South Downs.



A DISTINCTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

enjoying entire seclusion in a beautiful position. Six bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception, excellent domestic offices. Gas, C. water and electricity. Garages. Garden and woodland almost 2 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £6,000

Agents: IBBETT, MOSELEY, CARD & CO., 125, High Street, Sevenoaks, Kent. (Tel. 2247/48).

SEVENOAKS

On the Wildernesse, near to golf links and Country Club.



A VERY CHARMING MODERN HOUSE

Three reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, space for 2 others, 1 bathroom and space for another, 2 small offices. Good garage. All main services, central heating throughout. Most charming gardens of 1 1/2 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £7,000

Agents: IBBETT, MOSELEY, CARD & CO., 125, High Street, Sevenoaks, Kent. (Tel. 2247/48).

BETWEEN REIGATE AND DORKING

Betchworth Station 2 miles. Reigate 5 miles.

LATE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Beautiful country with views to Leith Hill. Seven-eight bedrooms, bathroom, garage, double garage. Double garage. Outbuildings. About 8 ACRES, including paddock. FARM HOLD WITH VACANT POSITION. A pair of Pigeon houses. Price £12,500. £1,250 a. d. p.a. can also be acquired if desired.

Agents: IBBETT, MOSELEY, CARD & CO., 125, High Street, Reigate. (Tel. 2908 and 3793).

'Phone: 1
Orpway 828 A. T. UNDERWOOD & CO. And at
THREE BRIDGES, SUSSEX

By order of Executors.

FIVE ACRES, POUND HILL, WORTH, SUSSEX

A middle lonely country within easy daily reach of London.

COMMODIOUS SUNGLOW RESIDENCE

Lounge, 2 sitting rooms, 4 bedrooms (3 with fitted wash-basins), bathroom. Central heating. C. water's. Main electric light and power. Garage, workshop and out-buildings.

In all about 5 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION

For Sale by Auction (unless sold privately) at The Oak Room, Whitehall, East Grinstead, July 17, 1947.

Auctioneers: A. T. UNDERWOOD & CO., The Estate Office, Three Bridges.

Solicitors: Messrs. WHITLEY, HUGHE & LUCAS, East Grinstead.

BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS Tel.: 81, MILLBANK, LONDON, S.W.1 & KENLEY HOUSE, OXFORD. OX1 975

A SINGER COMMON, LEFTHILL HILL. On high ground with superb views, an attractive COUNTRY RESIDENCE with 8 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 sitting rooms, 2 dining rooms, 2 bathrooms, garage, spacious outbuildings and grounds of 10 ACRES.

B URNWASH, MINIATURE ESTATE OF 5 1/2 ACRES with picturesque Sussex Manor House in excellent surroundings overlooking Bournwash Woods. Eight principal and 6 secondary bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen with Aga and dining room, 2 sitting rooms, 2 bathrooms, garage, workshop and outbuildings. Cottages. Well maintained ornamental gardens and highly productive kitchen garden. Excellent central position throughout.

C HINFIELD, BUCKS.—AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE built in panel style, in good position within easy reach of Oxford Station. Seven bedrooms, bathroom, bathroom, lounge, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen with Aga and dining room, 2 sitting rooms, 2 bathrooms, garage, workshop and outbuildings. Cottages. Main services, gardens and grounds of nearly 8 ACRES.

C ON BORDERS OF SUSSEX AND SURREY. COMPACT FREEHOLD RESIDENCE standing in picturesque wooded parkland of about 48 ACRES. The reception rooms, billiards room, 4 bedrooms, 2 bedrooms, well-planned domestic offices, garage, workshop and outbuildings. Gardens and grounds are a feature of the property and are easily maintained.

W ITHE, EASY REACH OF OXFORDON. MODERNISED COTTAGE. Five bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms. Good kitchen. Pleasant garden of about 1/2 ACRE. In excellent surroundings adjoining country roads and within few minutes walk of Oxford.

For further particulars, apply BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, as above.

SUSSEX AND SURREY BORDER

MODERNISED GEORGIAN HOUSE

Ten bedrooms, 4 reception and 5 bathrooms. Central heating. Main electricity and drainage.

Three cottages. Garage, etc.

Grounds of 5 1/2 ACRES

FREEHOLD £12,000

Inspected and recommended. Ref. 366.

Telegrams:
"Wood, Agate, Woods,
London."

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

By direction of Mrs. P. G. MacLay.

CIRENCESTER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

THE WELL-KNOWN EASTINGTON ESTATE



For Sale privately now, or by Auction in late July.

HOBBS & CHAMBERS, Cirencester, and Faringdon, Berks; JOHN D. WOOD & CO., as above.

AVAILABLE VERY PRIVATELY.

ON COTSWOLDS, near Cheltenham



CORN GROWING AND DAIRY FARM OF 360 ACRES

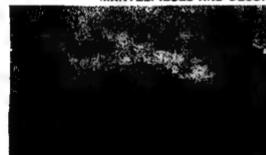
ATTRACTIVE OLD COTSWOLD RESIDENCE

Completely modernised. 5 bedrooms, 4 reception, 2 bath, Central heating. Electricity. Terrace gardens. Substantial stable block. Large farm buildings. Large barn. Albergay grain dryer. Range of sites. Highly productive land. Four modernised Cotswold cottages. A modernised stable block. Two ranges of stables. BLYLAND & CO., Thomas Street, Cirencester, and JOHN D. WOOD & CO., as above. (75,329)

By direction of Mrs. Gilmore.

NEWINGTON HOUSE, 9 MILES FROM OXFORD

FINE OLD 18TH-CENTURY RESIDENCE WITH ALL THE ORIGINAL MANTLEPIECES AND DECORATIONS



Personally inspected and highly recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1.

FINE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Four bedrooms, 2 bath, good domestic offices. Garden and grounds. 100 ft. frontage. 100 ft. depth. SMALL MIXED FARM OF 900 ACRES.

Covered for 8. Dated barn.

Stabling. Colswold barn.

Main road frontage. Estate.

value £25 ACRES

moderated land. Thirteen

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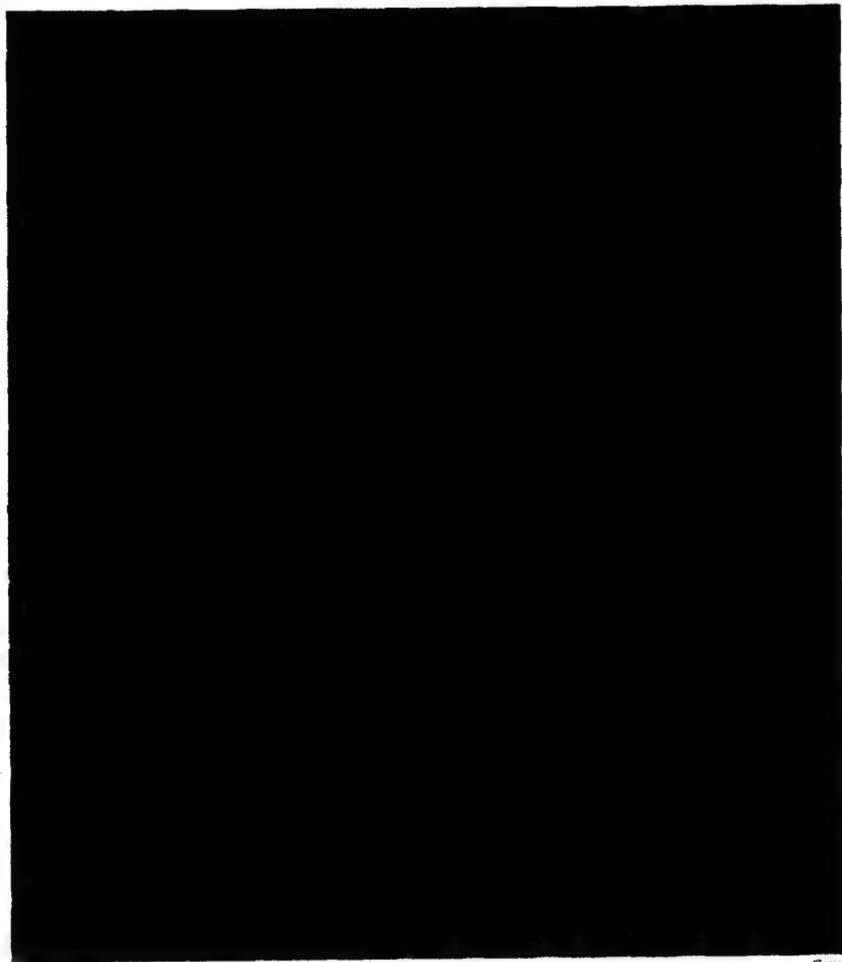
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COUNTRY LIFE

12182
JUNE 27, 1947



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COUNTRY LIFE

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FOREST POLICY

THE drain on this country's own comparatively slender resources of timber, caused by two world wars within half a century, has not only been due to wholesale and haphazard felling to meet emergencies as they arose. Both the wars in turn entirely dislocated the timber trade and for years deprived these islands of overseas supplies both from neutrals and, to a large extent, from the Empire. The second war, with its far-flung fronts, has also made heavy inroads on the Empire's outlying resources. Demands in the Pacific area had to be met by Australia, and those in the Middle East by India and South Africa. There is no doubt that the Empire forests have been, in spite of their enormous potential wealth of timber, too freely drawn upon, and almost every Dominion is now faced with the task of devising measures of planting and conservation. So much is evident from the statements made by the Dominion and Colonial Delegations to the Empire Forestry Conference, one of the chief businesses of which will be to plan the mobilisation and development of British timber resources both from the point of view of strategic needs and from that of economic potential.

This is the fifth conference of its kind—though the first to find itself dealing with Imperial problems on such a vast and interlocking scale. The Forestry Commission convened the first conference when it came into existence itself after the 1914 war, and a great deal of the time of the previous delegations will be spent in visiting the State forests which the Commission has since brought into being, and in seeing for themselves the terrain on which the Commissioners hope to raise the forests of their post-war Fifty-year Plan. As they travel from the once desolate East Anglian Breckland, now planted with Scotch and Corsican pine, to the Border Country Forests of Saxon spruce and Japanese larch, and on to the remains of the great Caledonian Forest of pine, oak and birch, which at Darnaway and elsewhere is now being converted to modern timber production, they will also have opportunities of visiting those private woodlands which are being brought under the Fifty-year Plan, and of reflecting how much not only this improvident land, but the whole Empire is beholden to the enterprise of British landowners whose interest in silviculture was by no means confined to their own country. This is perhaps not the place to discuss how much those who belong to the present Forestry Organisation of this country owe also to the scientific approach to arboriculture adopted in the Indian Forest Service, to the traditions of Cooper's Hill and to the School of Forestry at Oxford which replaced the original institution.

Now-a-days there exists ample and expanding opportunity for education and for research in the problems of afforestation and woodland conservation, and the Conservators, Directors and Research Officers who are discussing Empire forestry here at present are colleagues by training and tradition as well as by the nature of their work. As the result of war-time experience, South Africa is largely increasing its forest area and proposes to double its annual production of soft wood. The plans of the Indian provinces and States are largely confined to making the country self-supporting, and Canadian timber production is already so great that it is not likely to be increased in the near future. There is little comfort here for those who realise that, two years after the war, over-felling is still going on in our home woodlands, and that our demands for timber for building purposes, for railway sleepers and pit props must be largely met by the countries of the Baltic.

SUMMER GARDEN

*TULIPS and forget-me-nots
In a summer garden grow:
Peonies and bright poppies blow,
And columbine in shadow spots:
Pinks and lupins' proud array
Mark the lingering hours of May.
Rosebuds rare and lilies pale,
Jasmine flowers dimly white,
Breathing fragrance and faint light.
Wait to greet the nightingale:
And irises beneath the moon
Make the magic that is June.*

PHYLIS HOWELL.

THE POLITICS OF GRASS

NOW is the first climax of the farmer's year—the haysel, the traditional festivities attaching to which are enchantingly depicted in an unique old painting examined in this issue. It is, then, appropriate, indeed it is imperative, to ponder the old truth that all flesh is grass and its bearing on our crucial need to feed ourselves to the utmost possible extent from our own soil. The article on page 1216 by Sir George Stapledon, evangelist of modern grass-land methods, draws attention to something of a crusade in the politics of grass seed production. It is accepted, thanks to him, that the key of selected herbage strains is the key to maximum livestock production in our climate. But he points out that, although the grass acreage is now increasing, the acreage in leys is ridiculously small proportionately, and that there is now actually a surplus of certain approved strains of grass seed over demand, with the result that some experimental and seed production fields are being merely grazed or mown—in other words wasted. Yet other grass seed is being imported, notably from Denmark, owing to its cheapness and general serviceability, although it is essential that there should be an assured market for home-produced strains adapted to our particular climate. Rather than reduce the latter, everything must be done by expert production to improve and cheapen them against the time, which Sir George foresees in about 1953, when it should be possible to have vastly increased our flocks and herds. Then, consequently, the acreage in leys will need greatly to exceed that in permanent grass, and there will be a pressing demand for the right strains of seed, plentiful and cheap. Short sight now spells short stocks then.

WIMBLEDON AGAIN

ALL this week those who are lucky enough to get seats will have been watching the great ones of the lawn tennis world at Wimbledon, and turning their heads first to right and then to left in following the flight of a ball which travels almost at the speed of thought. We at home can take a comparatively placid and impartial view of the proceedings since our own lawn tennis seems at the moment to be in something of a slough of despond and our best can have little hope against these champions from the ends of the earth. Kramer, Drobny, Bromwich, Dinni Pails, Petra, all he plays after all—these and others are names that have a stirring sound and promise a series of brilliant exhibitions in which we need not take too pain-

fully agonising an interest. The Australian contingent may well do something for the honour of the British Empire, and it is rather a pity that after entering for the tournament at Queen's Club they should have suddenly withdrawn in a way not calculated to conciliate public opinion. What is now wanted is fine weather, and that both we and Wimbledon have surely earned by this time.

BUCKLAND AND LYME

CAPTAIN "TAFFY" RODD'S very public-spirited action last November in buying Buckland Abbey, historic home of Sir Francis Drake, for preservation has now succeeded. Through Lord Astor, who conducted the necessary negotiations, the Pilgrim Trust has made a substantial grant for repairs, the National Trust has agreed to own and hold the Abbey and the Plymouth Corporation is considering assuming its actual care as a naval and folk museum. In Cheshire, the transfer of Lyme Park by Lord Newton to the National Trust and Corporation of Stockport has been consummated by its opening to the public. "When we last illustrated this noble pile the intention was to use part as a convalescent home or teachers' college. Now a residential horticultural school is talked of. It was the Corporation's timely interposition that made the preservation of Lyme possible, but they seem to be meeting with some difficulty in finding a practical use.

THE OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

DOLLARS are very important things now-a-days, and it is presumably dollars that account for the fact that the great South African golfer and an old friend of ours, Bobby Locke, will not after all be playing in the Open Championship at Hoylake. He has already had a very successful time of it in American tournaments and intends to stay there to take part in some more of them, in particular one, the Tam o' Shanter tournament, in which the prize list is said to amount to £9,000. That is an attraction with which we cannot here compete. Nobody can blame a professional player for emulating Mr. Mantalini and "picking up the demitasse gold and silver," but Locke's absence will leave a regrettable gap. Two well-known American players, Ghezzi and Bulla, are said to be coming, but Smeal will not defend his title and exactly how dangerous the overseas entry will be we do not yet know. One formidable challenger there will certainly be in that fine Australian golfer, Norman von Nida, who has been playing extremely well. Meanwhile it is cheering to see that Cotton has jumped at the right moment into his best form. Hoylake ought to suit him, as it did in last year's *News of the World* tournament, and he will surely take a lot of beating.

GOOSEBERRY TIME

FRUITS which are at their best without cream and without sugar have in these years of continuing austerity an obvious advantage over the princely strawberries and raspberries. That may seem a back-handed compliment to gooseberries, and amends may best be made by recalling words written by a discriminating gourmet, the late Edward Buryard, at a time when cream and sugar were available without stint: "The Gooseberry has a quality all its own, and a flavour which, if found in an imported tropical fruit, would be exalted in the most fervent language." A list of good dessert varieties includes such attractive names as Green Gascoigne, White Swan, Golden Gem and Red Champagne, which should persuade any fair-minded reader to reconsider the fruit that is handicapped by plebeian origin and unfortunate associations. In his *Anatomy of Dessert* Buryard discussed the time and temperature for gooseberry-eating. "On the return from church at 12.30 on a warm July day when the fruit is distinctly warm," is favoured by some. But for his part he preferred "gathering while they are still cool and keeping in the fruit-room till wanted." "But," he added, "the gooseberry is, of course, the fruit *par excellence* for ambulant consumption. The freedom of the bush should be given to all visitors. The exercise of gathering, too, is beneficial to the middle-aged, and also stimulates their absorptive capacity."

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

OWING to Double Shinwell Time I find it extremely hard to order my days and still more difficult to arrange my nights, with tea being brought in at 2.30 p.m. by the sun, young chicks staying out until 11 p.m. by the clock, and trout so confused by the change of time that they forgot to dine at all. In any case, I am up at least two hours before the fish had begun to think of food. On my way thither through the corn lands of Dorset I was delighted to see the quite extraordinary growth that the wheat, barley and oat crops had made after the eight days of tropical heat that we experienced at the end of May, but I was not so gratified to find that all the many riverside growths had responded to an even greater extent.

To fish the stream with anything approaching ease it was necessary to be at least 9 ft. 9 ins. tall, with a length of leg rather out of proportion to that great height, and, after fighting my way through the Burmese jungle for two hours with only what I call "pre-school" trout taking the trouble to rise to my fly, I sat down to admire Nature; and a water-meadow in June, particularly if it is not quite as the farmer would like to see it, is worth admiring. I do not think a farmer is greatly enamoured of the yellow flag (I do not know that the fisherman is particularly fond of it when his fly embeds itself in the tough stem), but all the same a yellow flag by the waterside in the evening light is not exactly a noisome weed.

THREE were just a few may-fly on the water, and quite a number of swallows and martins were taking them immediately they fell out of the sedges on to the stream. The competition for them, in fact, was quite keen, and on one occasion at least two birds collided over one fly, though, thanks to most efficient braking and swerving, no damage was done since the feathered wing is so easily dented by a metal one. Shortly afterwards, behind a large oak close to the river's bank, and over the adjoining hayfield, I came upon a vast assembly of may-flies dancing in the last rays of the setting sun. There were, as usual, thousands of the insects making the most of the last hours of their very short, extremely dangerous, but nevertheless most enjoyable life, and it seemed extraordinary that neither the swallows nor the martins, nor even the swifts, were taking advantage of the situation. A hundred yards away over the surface of the stream these birds were forced to do a lot of hard flying to pick up a solitary fly every three minutes or so, whereas if they had visited the neighbouring meadow they could have been filled to repletion in a matter of seconds. If I had ever detected the slightest sign of consideration for others in the bird world, I might have imagined, on the principle of "all the world loves a lover," that the swallows and martins respected the happy gathering, and were allowing the may-flies to spend their last few hours in peace.

THE general technique in a may-fly "ballroom" reminds me to a certain extent of the dances given in English villages during the occupation of this country for our American allies in 1944. A British airman, a Canadian soldier or a civilian would be on the point of completing his first circle of the floor with the belle of the evening, when he would receive a smart slap on the shoulder from a G.I. which was a signal for him to relinquish his partner. The G.I. would then start to fitterbong with the village beauty, and would shortly afterwards disappear with her to some sitting-out place for the rest of the evening.



V. G. Waissfeld

THE MARKET CROSS AT CASTLE COMBE, WILTSHIRE
Hopes have been expressed that the village, the forthcoming sale of which has been announced, will be acquired for permanent presentation

At a may-fly dance the same rule about "cutting in" is observed, but things are not quite so easy. In the first place, the original partner frequently refuses to be ousted and comes back to claim his girl, the girl as often as not has no use at all for the newcomer, and continues to dance by herself and, lastly, none of the belles has the faintest intention of going off to a sitting-out place until she is utterly exhausted. Incidentally, one of the many sitting-out places was a poultry run adjoining the hay meadow and, judging from the antics of the hens within, they, unlike the swallows and martins, were not respecting the sanctity of the may-flies' last hours in the world; it was, indeed, very much a case of "all hope abandon ye who enter here" if a courting couple descended to within three feet of mother earth.

AND an Irish newspaper dated June 1 states that "the may-fly still continues her sit-down strike on the bottoms of Lough Corrib," and that the ranks of anglers armed with dapping rods, after waiting a fortnight for her appearance, are now marching away from Oughterard in disgust. ■ ■ a good many years since I visited Lough Corrib for the may-fly dip, since I preferred always the harry dip in the autumn, the harry or daddy-long-legs being a more reliable and punctual fellow than his very ephemeral and casual cousin, *ephemera*, but it was my experience that on three years out of four the may-fly

did not put in an appearance on the lough until the early days of June. It was a standing joke, in fact, in Southern Galway that the may-fly was called by that name because it was never seen in May. In other days, when ■ was not necessary to book months ahead for accommodation, no dapper thought of crossing the Irish Channel until he had received the telegram that ran "May-fly up."

A READER of COUNTRY LIFE has written to me asking my advice about the best type of deaf-aid he should get, since, he thinks, he has reached a stage of deafness when he feels he cannot carry on without one. The letter has arrived at a most unfortunate moment, for, though I possess four deaf-aids, only one is in working order, and this is badly ■ need of an overhaul.

The trouble with my deaf-aids is that they function by means of two storage batteries, which the deaf-aid manufacturers do not make themselves, but which are supplied by one or other of the many firms who produce these goods. During the fuel crisis (how weary one gets of having to refer to this disaster in connection with everything with which one comes in contact) these manufacturing firms had to cut down output and, since ■ would be a shameful thing to interfere with the joys of those who listen all day and half the night to screaming crooners interspersed with crashes of con-

temporary music, the manufacturers ceased to make the essential batteries for many of the hearing aids on the market.

I THINK the only amusing part about my deaf aids is that they scream if left switched on. Unfortunately, they never seem to scream quite loudly enough for the person directly concerned to hear in time to enable him to switch off, and thus save the life of a battery which costs 9s., and which will probably be unobtainable when he requires a new one. The other evening I went to a neighbouring chalk-stream in the hope that the trout would be taking the mayfly, which was then hatching. Unfortunately when I arrived the fish had already dined to repetition and had reached what one used in pre-war days to call, the "port stage" when only here and there an odd trout will think he might manage just one more, taking one's fly with what sounds suspiciously like a hiccup.

I left the car hidden away in the bushes of a side lane, where I hoped it might be overlooked by the car thieves who seem to constitute about sixteen per cent. of the population of the country to-day, and in it I placed my deaf aid, since fishing is one of the few pursuits where it is not absolutely essential. For two or three glorious happy hours one can be free from the intolerable burden and, even if one does not notice the hiccup of every trout that rises, one can hear all the birds that have high-pitched voices and are worth listening to. Though the old heron may rise from the rushes upstream without the squawk he used to make in other days, the goldfinch at the top of the willow tree sings as sweetly as ever he did, and the thrush in the hawthorn bush repeats again and again his musical command of "stick to it—stick to it," which is very necessary advice these times when one goes out trout fishing.

WHEN I returned to the car at dusk, some three hours later, with a brace of late diners in the bag, I heard a shrill screaming, and, with visions of one of those commonplace murders being committed in the bushes, I hurried up the lane armed with a 8½ ft. split-cane rod and a collapsible landing net. As I failed to find either the body or the murderer, and as the screaming had ceased, I returned to the car. Once again the shrill screams burst out, and this time I decided that undoubtedly they came from an unfortunate rabbit being hypnotised by a stoat. A careful search of the neighbouring field, however, disclosed that on this occasion Nature was not living up to her reputation of being "red in tooth and claw" and, on opening the door of the car, I discovered that the agonised expiring sounds came from my dear little deaf-aid with its 9s. battery, now quite unobtainable, reaching the last stages of exhaustion.

HAY HARVEST ◦ BY ARTHUR OSWALD



1.—A HAYMAKING SCENE NEAR DIXTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, EARLY 18th CENTURY. The painting, which measures 9 ft. 5 ins. by 3 ft. 4½ ins., records in delightful detail what was once a festival occasion in many English villages

OF all times in the farming year hay-making is the jolliest—or should be if the weather behaves. Everyone enjoys using a rake in the meadow in the days of late June or July; however inexpert he or she may be with a scythe, everyone that is to say, except the unfortunate minority that suffer from hay fever. In old days haysel, to use a good though now archaic word, came second only to harvest among the festivities and jollifications of the summer. Yet few descriptions of the old haymaking customs in the days before the enclosures which killed them, appear to have survived. Pictures are rarer still. The landscape, reproduced here by the kindness of its owner, the President of St. John's College, Oxford, is probably unique; it shows with minute particularity of detail a haymaking scene in Gloucestershire nearly two hundred and fifty years ago. The care with which every incident is depicted by the unknown artist is evidence of the importance formerly attached

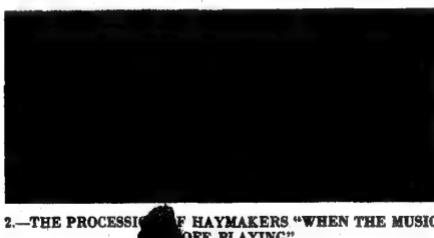
to this annual event in the life of manor and parish. Hence if one studies the groups of little figures, one has the feeling of being veritably in contact with Merry England, that blessed and elusive land of our forefathers.

The painting once hung in the manor house at Dixton, near Winchcombe, which was described in COUNTRY LIFE last year (April 26). Part of a companion picture, now in the Cheltenham Art Gallery, was then reproduced. It is a wide landscape looking out westward into the Severn Vale, Dixton Manor figuring prominently in the foreground. The squire's family are shown demurely standing outside the front door, and his coach, drawn by six black horses, is waiting close at hand. His fine flock of Cotswold sheep, his stables, a string of horses led by a groom, his gardens, cows, dogs, even his pigeons are portrayed with the same minute attention to detail that appears in the hay-making scene. Here we seem to be looking in the other direction, eastward to the line of the Cotswolds in the distance running out towards Broadway, with the spur of Langley Hill on our right and the flank of Alderton Hill just showing on the left. This is vale country but set among the outlying hills of the Cotswolds, and the pastures are enclosed by hedges, not stone walls. Unfortunately, it is impossible to say for certain who commissioned the painting. Dixton was

for centuries the home of the Higfords, who were also lords of the manor of Alderton, to which parish Dixton belongs. It may have been James, William or Henry Higford (the last a squires) who was owner at the time. Costume and other details in the companion picture point to a date in the first twenty years of the 18th century.

With an artist's licence a succession of incidents are reproduced on the same canvas. Every phase of haymaking operations seems to be going on in the big rectangular meadow. In the middle of Fig. 3 the mowers are at work. Twenty-three men armed with scythes are advancing methodically in an oblique line across the still uncut portion of the field, leaving neat rows of swaths behind them; some are mowing, others sharpening their scythes. To the right of them the swaths lie where they have been cut. Elsewhere the hay is already cocked or being raked into cocks. Two men and four maidens are busy with their rakes in the foreground of Fig. 3 to the left of the line of mowers. And carting also is in progress. No fewer than five wagons are shown, each drawn by a team of four horses, the leader carrying a large plumb on his head. Some of the wagons are loading, two are being driven off piled high with hay.

Such much for the serious work. But it is the incidental groups that are most intriguing. The three mounted figures riding over the swaths I take to be Mr. Higford, his wife and daughter come to see how things are going on. Then we have a procession of haymakers, rakes on shoulder, led by a musician (Fig. 2). They seem likely to trample on the uncut grass on which the mowers are at work, but this little detail does not seem to have worried the artist. Unfortunately, one cannot see what kind of instrument is being played, but two of the men have broken



2.—THE PROCESSION OF HAYMAKERS "WHEN THE MUSIC IS OFF PLAYING"



3.—ENLARGEMENT OF THE LEFT-HAND SECTION OF THE DIXTON PAINTING. Right middle, the mowers with their scythes; beside the hedges groups of haymakers resting; on the right, the squire, his wife and daughter, come to see how things are going

into a dance. There is another merry party on the extreme left of the picture near the wagon (top left hand of Fig. 3). Here, three swains, perhaps run by the music stage, are an impromptu dance round a village maiden. Two or three steps by the hedges have put up their rakes and are taking their ease. A piper is playing to one of them. Another musician standing by a haycock is encouraging the mowers. In the right-hand section (Fig. 4) the business of making, cocking and carting seems to be well in hand, but I think I detect two or three *pas de deux* being executed in and around the haycocks. And who are these coming down the adjoining field under the hill? Two of the womenfolk, and they are certainly carrying something. What else but refreshments? Most interesting of all is the group of seven in the right foreground—a side of morris dancers and their leader. The crossed baldrics, alternately red and blue, are clearly visible over their shirts, and so are the flapping handkerchiefs tied to their wrists. But what is most astonishing is the way in which the artist, painting on so small a scale, has been able to suggest the lively, jerky, leaping movements of the morris (Fig. 5). The actions of the mowers and haymakers are represented with equal skill, and so are the costumes. All are wearing their best clothes, the women in large straw hats and white aprons over red or blue skirts, the men in shirts, black breeches, white stockings and black hats.

It is not easy to decide whether the meadow was part of Mr. Higford's enclosed lands, or, as I am inclined to think, we are looking at a corner of Gloucestershire in which the old village economy was still working and the scene represented is the mowing of the common meadow. It is obviously a great communal occasion, in which more than 120 people are taking part. The hedges cannot be adduced as evidence one way or the other; the common meadows had to be hedged to keep straying cattle off the grass. But there is a large cornfield in which the ridges and furrows of the "lands" are clearly seen, suggesting that it was one of the common fields. Although allowance has to be made for the artist's exaggerations, field and meadow are both much larger than the enclosed pastures surrounding them. The Enclosure Act for Alderton, to which parish Dixton belongs, was passed in 1807. It is possible that the meadow was the common meadow of the Alderton folk.

The few printed accounts of old haymaking customs before the enclosures are mostly concerned with the apportionment of the meadow grass. In *The Open Fields* Dr. and Mrs. C. S. Orwin have made a detailed study of Laxton in Nottinghamshire, the last parish in England to preserve the old open-field system. There the grass in the four common meadows, before their enclosure in 1727, was allotted in tiny strips called "doles" of an average size of not more than 20 perches, one man's dole alternating with those of his neighbours on the same principle as that on which the strips were held in the common fields. The doles were fixed units. But on some manors the strips of grass

were apportioned by drawing lots. Gomme, in his *Village Community*, gives instances of these "lot meads."

This was the system in force a century ago at Bampton in Oxfordshire on the manor of Aston and Cote, where four elected grass-stewards and sixteen men, called "the sixteens," summoned the tenants to a meeting when the grass in the meadow was ready to be cut. Each tenant had his mark, for instance a frying pan, a hen's foot, a bow, cut on a piece of wood, and these were thrown into a hat and drawn for. Armed with their scythes, the men proceeded to the "sets" which they had drawn and each cut his mark on his piece of ground. Dr. Giles, who describes the ceremony in his *History of Bampton*, remarks that some unfortunates drew strips so narrow that they could not take a full sweep with their scythes but were forced to hack down the grass "in an inconvenient manner." Whether the morris dancers, who still survive at Bampton, took part in the festivities, we are not told. At Haddenham in Buckinghamshire, where a dock-weed was cut up for drawing lots, the signs or marks were cut on the piece of dock.

In the Northamptonshire parish of Warkworth, near Banbury, the occasion of marking

out and drawing lots for the mowing grass was a festive one. In the great Ashe Meadow the men of Warkworth, Northampton, Grimbury and Netherby all had a share; it was divided in fifteen portions, drawn by lot, each portion being allowed eight mowers. The portions were laid out by the six elected "field-men" "on the Saturday seven nights before Midsummer Day." When Bridges, the county historian, wrote in the 18th century, the meadow had not yet been enclosed, and he could give his description in the present tense:

As soon as the meadow is measured, the man who presides over the feast, attended by the Hayward of Warkworth, brings into the field three gallons of ale. After this the meadow is run, as they term it, or trod, to distinguish the lots; and when this is over the hayward brings into the field a ramp of beef, six penny loaves, and three gallons of ale, and is allowed a certain portion of hay in return.

The hayward and the master of the feast were called by the strange name of "crocus-men." On the following Monday the lots were drawn, "consisting some of eight swaths and others of four." The first and last "carried the garlands." In a proclamation that followed, beginning with the familiar thrice-repeated



4.—THE RIGHT-HAND SECTION ENLARGED: HAYMAKING, CARTING AND THE MORRIS MEN



5.—THE MORRIS DANCERS

"Oyez!" and ending with "God Save the King," there was an order read among others: "No man or men shall go before the two garlands; if you do you shall pay your penny, or deliver your scythe at the first demand, and this so often as you shall transgress."

There is at least one example on record of the mowing of the common field being made the occasion of a local fair. At Chesterton, near Bicester, when the Revel Mead was mown, there were country games, and booths and stalls were erected. "These sports," notes Dunkin in his *History of Bicester*, "entirely ceased on the enclosure of Chesterton field." How many of our old village customs were lost through the enclosures of the 18th century, when wealth accumulated and men decayed. In England villages were seldom deserted, like Goldsmith's Auburn, though several were destroyed or transported in the interests of landscape gardening, but almost all became husks out of which the old communal life had been squeezed.

The most vivid description of old hay-making customs that I have come across occurs in a manuscript book which is both a full history and a kind of survey of the Warwickshire parish of Warmington. This charming village with its lovely manor house and green was described in COUNTRY LIFE last November. I have to thank Mr. Charles Jarvis, of Balscote, near Banbury, for the loan of this book, a delightful and valuable record of village economy before and after the enclosure. It has as its title-page the owner's name, "John Judd, Warmington," and the date 1847, surrounded by the calligraphic flourishes of an accomplished writing-master (Fig. 7). At the end of the book is the note: "Copied 1847-8." Internal evidence points, however, to a date some thirty years earlier for its compilation. Much of the information in it is taken from Dugdale and the Enclosure Awards, but the intimate and sometimes personal details given, as well as the semi-literary style suggest that the author was one of the people. John Judd can hardly have written the book himself, as the calligraphic gift goes to the seventeenth-centuries. The writer may have been his father. The Judds were yeomen farmers, "possessed of land," as the author proudly declares, "ever since Sheldon was Lord hereof Legally descended in a direct line and so like to continue." (The Sheldons were lords of the manor for a few years after the Dissolution of the Monasteries.)

We must pass over the interesting account of the names and situation of the common fields and "the rule of husbandry" followed before the enclosure, which took place in 1776, when the banker, Robert Child, of Osterley and Upton, was lord of the manor. We will turn to the writer's description of the mowing, which might almost be an eye-witness's account of the scene in the Dixon painting. A distinction is made between the mowing of "the field" and the mowing of the common meadow. Apparently a portion of the common fields had become meadow—a process known to have taken place elsewhere. Each "occupier" had parcels corresponding to the size of his estate in the other part of the field, but those possessing two acres had their grass divided into three or four parcels each marked by stones or landmarks.

Before they began to mow they would set up a Stick at one of these marks and stand at the other and run a tread from one mark to the other which they would do to a great exactness between man and man.

At Warkworth, as we have seen, a similar procedure was followed. But it is recorded of one Simon Huggins, "great grand Father to the present Mr. Samuel Huggins," to whose family the Judds seem to have had an ineradicable antipathy, that he would not play fair at mowing only so far as the middle of the trench. If his neighbour had better grass than his, "he could not for his heart's blood and soul help it," but mowed the whole tread, "which," adds our author, "show'd a covetous dis-

position." Indeed, not all was harmonious on this jolly occasion. When the neighbour saw what had been done, "he would come with a rake and take considerably more away than what had been taken from him, which the other again fetched back, so that continually disputes were arising among the several occupiers."

Yet these cloudlets must soon have dispersed in the general merry-making on the following day when the meadow was mown. "The largest proprietor or occupier dared not presume to put a scythe into the meadow." Here the Judds had a "particular privilege" of mowing "the swarth" which part'd the long Sets from the short Sets."

As the old man recalls the scene, his pen warms to its task and we share both the glow and regret he must have felt as he wrote his description. In giving it in his own words, I have not altered the spelling, but as he or his amanuensis was economical in the use of punctuation, I have put in the commas and full stops.

It was a pleasing sight to see the young man by two or three o'clock in the morning neatly dressed—Holland shirts and their best cloths—trying which could cut and mow best their Ground the best. Eight or nine o'clock in the morning and all the females of the parish, young and old, Rich and poor, Farmers daughters, Servant girls, the poor Women, married and single, all dressed on in their best Cloaths to come to make the hay, everyone with a cheerful Countenance, and mirth

and merriment seemed to pervade the whole field to joy. About three or four o'clock in the afternoon some Musicians was brought usually into the Meadow, the tabor and pipe, or Fiddle, or all of them. Immediately then all work ceased, for the mowing by that time would be done. They all assembled under some shade and did their play in country dances. Commenced which continued without intermission till nearly six o'clock in the evening, about which time the common word was Given that the cows where going home. When the music sett off playing to the Village; the young men holding their Scythes up in the air, the Haymakers their forks and Rakes, and oftentimes six young men would dance the Morris before them all the way to village.

The account coincides so nicely with the Dixton landscape that the Warwickshire farmer might have had it hanging before him as he wrote. There is "the music" setting off playing at the head of the procession of hay-makers and there are the morris men dancing; only "the best cloaths" might have seemed a trifle old-fashioned to Farmer Judd.

But the Warmington book takes us where the Dixton painter in his landscape could not, to the end of the day's rejoicings. Or perhaps at Dixton, as in parts of Oxfordshire, the feast,

6.—TWO OF THE WAGONS WITH THEIR TEAMS

known as "the Medisipe," was held after the crop had been gathered in. A hay harvest home was given by the Reverend William Cole, when he was rector of Bletchley, July, 1766, was a cold, rainy season in Bedfordshire, but on the 22nd, in spite of its being a "gloomy day," all the hay was got in. "They made a sort of procession, with a Fiddle & German Flute, Jem dressed out with Ribbands & Tom Hearne dancing before the last Cart. I giving a good Supper to all my Hay makers & Helpers, being above 30 Persons in the Kitchen, who staid 'till one." It is tempting to quote more from Cole's diary, but we must return to the festivities at Warmington.

Having reached the village, they now dispersed, every one going to his own masters house, where feasting and mirth was in full swing. There were the Master, Dame, Sons and Daughters, Servants and working people sitting at one table together with their friends and acquaintance invited on this occasion and treated with right English fare such as plum pudding, cheese, cakes, beef, and all other sorts of meat, roast, and boild, as is usually found at a farmers table. No sooner was the upper over but the chearings were run round, and then began telling stories and jokes and merriment added to the pleasure of the evening. The same glass and the same liquor served all the company; there was no distinction made and no exception taken from highest to the lowest in the house. Six young men and Maidens danced at the same time were going round to different farms and houses in the village, attending generally with a great concourse of people from the neighbouring Villages who came to enjoy the feast as well as of the inhabitant of Warmington at the Farm houses. Beer was brought out as free as water, every one welcome to drink what they liked as long as the Morris stayed, which was only while they danced two or three dances, and then got into great spirits, then they all assembled in some barn, which had been cleaned out for their purpose, where rich and poor, young and old, married and single all joined in the country dance, which commonly lasted the whole night.

The next day was, presumably, a day of rest: we are not told. Sadly but impressively the account is concluded: "Such was the regulation and customs of the Lordship of Warmington previous to the Act of Inclosure."

7.—TITLE PAGE OF THE WARMINGTON BOOK FROM WHICH THE ACCOUNT OF THE MOWING OF THE COMMON MEADOW IS TAKEN. The date is that when the manuscript was copied for John Judd; the book was compiled some thirty years earlier



FOREIGN SHEEPDOGS IN BRITAIN

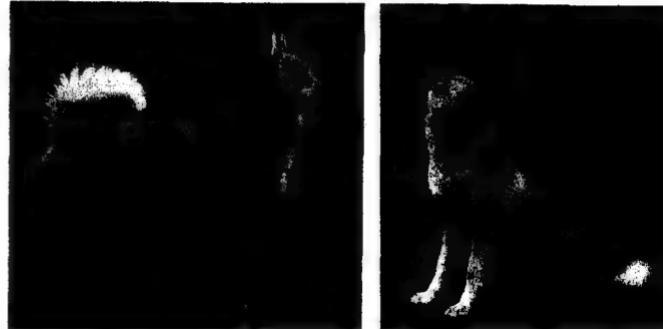
By A. CROXTON SMITH

NATURE has been a kindly mother to working dogs, endowing the majority of them with beauty of either form or coat, while those that are dressed in homespun usually have their plainness redeemed by expressive eyes or grace of movement. See the transformation effected in the unpretentious little Border collies as they streak along to round up the sheep, and, on reaching them, glide gently, *ventre à terre*, in order not to frighten the timid creatures which they have been directed to pen.

Perhaps of all the dog tribe none is handsomer than a foxhound from one of the fashionable packs—"the bitch from the Belvoir, the dog from the Quorn." Surely, it is not merely insular pride that impels me to make such a sweeping claim, for I am tolerably familiar with all the world's breeds of importance, and capable of exercising impartial discrimination. These hounds, made by a mixture of several breeds, have in the course of centuries been bred so carefully for endurance, speed and nose that they are a perfect example of adaptation to a special purpose and in reaching that stage they have developed a beauty of body that would have appealed irresistibly to the ancient Greeks. Here, of course, man has conspired with Nature in the production of a picture of surpassing excellence as he has in some of the other working breeds.

For this article, however, my mind is running more on the sheepdogs than on sporting dogs, those invaluable auxiliaries, without which pastoral pursuits would be conducted on far more expensive lines and with less efficiency. In unsettled times, when predatory animals abounded and the law of *survival of the fittest* was not observed as strictly as it is now, dogs were used to aid shepherds in the protection of flocks. Here in England, as long ago as the 10th century, they accompanied the sheep as they were taken from the enclosure to the pastures, and back again at night for the milking. With the disappearance of wolves and changed conditions of farming we had no use for guards, and smaller herding dogs came gradually into vogue.

The bigger dogs still linger in parts of the Continent, excellent examples of which are to be found in the beautiful Pyrenean Mountain dogs that were introduced some forty years ago by Lady Sybil Grant, though they were known at the beginning of last century, when some of the Highland chieftains crossed them with their deerhounds. Scott's favourite *Maid* was a descendant of one of these crosses. Our own sheepdogs have done their work so well that we have had no need to import others from outside. Such as have come are to be seen principally in the show ring, the exception being the Pomeranian sheepdogs that were brought over by



NORWEGIAN BUHUNDS AND (right) THEIR SEVEN PUPPIES, THREE DAYS OLD, BRED IN QUARANTINE

The colours may be light beige, fox red, light wolf grey or black; small white patches, white collar and legs are allowed

Mr. A. D. Ingrams, a farmer living at Bewley Down, near Axminster, Devon. He not only began to exhibit them in 1909, the best means of making them known, but he also used them on his farm. Pure white in colour, they are of a medium size, rather lightly built, and active, hardy and intelligent.

Two years later other interesting dogs of pleasing appearance began to be talked about, they being the Italian maremmas, one of which was given before the war to Mrs. Robertson, of Paxton House, Berwick-on-Tweed, by the Marchese Chigi as an ornament to her beautiful Adams home, but when she received another from Prince Corsini she was tempted to breed from them, two of the litter going to Mrs. Parker, of Whitwell, near Hitchin, Hertfordshire. This lady was hoping to establish them when the European war intervened. I have heard of one or two others being imported since.

As the result of her researches Mrs. Parker came to the conclusion that centuries ago they belonged to Tibet, reaching Italy by way of Hungary, where their descendants remain as the kuvasz, a breed that has been taken up in the United States. Certain modifications have occurred since they were acclimatised in Italy in the 14th century by one of the Medici family.

There they have been used as guardians of the flocks; not for herding them, as in 1912 Mr. W. S. Landor of Pistoia sent me a photograph of his dog and it appeared in COUNTRY LIFE. He doubted if they belonged to the marshy district of Italy known as the Maremma, believing that they had more to do with the hills. From March until about November they were with the sheep on the heights, going down with them as the severe weather set in. He told me that they were then scarce in Italy.

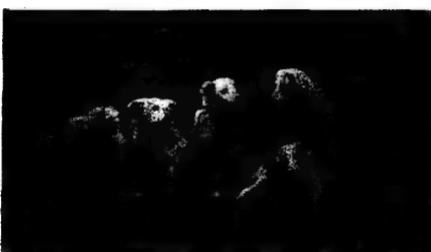


Another foreign sheepdog is now exciting comment at shows, this being the Norwegian buhund, a smart little dog of pronounced spitz type with its prick ears and tail carried over the back.

Mrs. Powys-Lybbe, of Faringdon, Alton, Hampshire, and Miss Gerd Berbom have imported a brace, the bitch of which produced a litter of seven when in quarantine. As these ladies are skilled breeders of elkhounds, of which they have had some outstanding specimens, they may be depended upon to maintain the proper type. Mrs. Powys-Lybbe tells me that the colours may be light beige, fox red, not too dark, light wolf grey or black, preferably self-coloured, but small white patches, white collar and legs are allowed. They are lightly built, with short compact bodies, thick, harsh but fairly smooth coats. The height for dogs is about 16 inches, and a little less for bitches. In temperament they are friendly but courageous, having no sense of nervousness.

In 1937 the Bernese Mountain dogs exhibited by Mrs. D. L. Perry attracted a good deal of attention, and it is to be hoped that they will not be allowed to disappear. They are general utility dogs in Switzerland, being used for herding, for draught purposes, or as guards. With their profuse soft, silky coats of shining black with russet-brown or tan markings, and their sensible heads, they are very pleasing in appearance. The story goes that the Romans introduced them into Switzerland two thousand years ago.

As far as I know, these are the only foreign sheepdogs in Great Britain [we exclude the Alsatian, which was made from a union of several German breeds of this class. Alsatians have sense enough to work on sheep, but most of our shepherds would consider them to be too big; they prefer the Border collies. As far as looks go, nothing could excel our show collies or Old English sheepdogs.



POMERANIAN SHEEPDOG PUPPIES WITH THEIR MOTHER

COLLECTORS' QUESTIONS



AN UNIDENTIFIED LANDSCAPE OF A PORT

See question: Name this Town

NAME THIS TOWN

CAN any of your readers assist me in locating the town depicted in the accompanying photograph of a landscape and also suggest who the artist was? The Wren-like steeple towards the right should be a clue, but so far I have drawn a blank.—A. APPLEBY, 31, Nassau Road, Barnes, S.W.13.

We have not been successful in identifying this port. English? Scottish? Irish? American? Some reader may be able to do so.

AN EAST ANGLIAN ARTIST

I should be most grateful if you would print a reproduction of the enclosed photograph of an oil painting which I acquired recently. The size of the picture is 17 ins. by 24 ins.—LORD JOHN HOPE, M.P., House of Commons, S.W.1

The painting appears to be signed "Churchyard" in the left-hand bottom corner. If the signature has been read correctly, the artist will be Thomas Churchyard of Woodbridge (1796

1865), a good painter of East Anglian scenery. Churchyard was a noted collector as well as painter, a friend of Fitzgerald, Bernard Barton and the other "Wits of Woodbridge."

GEORGIAN SHELL-WORK

I have just inherited the contents of a small house, among them a sort of bouquet of shells, made up to look like flowers. The case in which this object stands—its height is about 18 inches—is clearly 18th-century mahogany. I had an impression that such things belonged to the era of the Victorian lodging-house, but this is definitely superior to the objects of the sort which I have seen, and I should be glad to know whether it can be contemporary with the pleasure and well-designed case.—C. B., Porlock, Somerset.

Eighteenth-century shell-work is usually thought of in connection with grottoes, but the Catalogues of the Society and Free Society of Artists prove that, during the first twenty years of George III's reign, it was looked on as a species of art. A Mrs. Elizabeth Forster showed

"a vase with flowers in shell-work" twice at the Free Society in 1770 and 1772. Her address was "at Mr. Humphrey's Shell Warehouse, St. Martin's Lane," and it seems certain that this Mr. Humphrey was the father of the Mrs. Eleanor Humphrey (sic) who exhibited flower pieces in shell-work, two birds in shell-work on a rock, and a basket of flowers between 1762 and 1767 from the same address. It might be worth our correspondent's while to see whether there is any label on the case indicating its origin, and, if so, whether the name is mentioned in Graves's Catalogues of the Society and Free Society of Artists, as the examples here given are chosen out of several entries.

SILK PICTURES BY THOMAS STEVENS

I have a pair of pictures in deep gilt frames consisting of two small silk panels 2 ins by 2 ins. depicting racing scenes entitled The Start and The Struggle and inscribed "woven in silk by Thomas Stevens, inventor and manufacturer (registered), Coventry and London." There is no date. The horses and jockeys show very fine action, colour and detail. Could you give me any information about Thomas Stevens and say whether his work is of any importance?—C. T. SOUTTHALL, Whittington, near Ludlow, Shropshire.

Silk pictures, English in subject, spirit and workmanship, were made by Thomas Stevens, of Coventry, during the early years of the 19th century. Stevens manufactured ribbon book-markers, valentines and little silk novelties which would make a small gift more elaborate or which could be enclosed in a letter.

Silk pictures fall into certain well-defined categories. The oldest, and perhaps the most popular, is the sport series, in which the examples in question belong. In this series are illustrated hunting, racing, rowing, coursing, steeplechasing, cricket, tennis and so on. The pictures of sports scenes are $\frac{5}{8}$ ins. by $\frac{1}{4}$ ins. in size. They were woven in a long ribbon with repeats, to be cut and mounted separately. By the use of an extremely glossy silk and variety in the application of the broché stitch, the artist caught the vivid colours of the jockeys' shirts and the smooth sheen of the horses' coats.

To the collector an important item is the mount. The earliest pictures were mounted on a delicate green board which fades with exposure to light to a pale grey with a brownish tinge. The outside measurements are $\frac{8}{4}$ ins. by $\frac{5}{4}$ ins.; the opening, bevelled and gilded, is $5\frac{1}{4}$ ins. x $2\frac{1}{4}$ ins. Each mount had Stevens's label on the back.



LANDSCAPE WITH WINDMILLS

See question: An East Anglian Artist

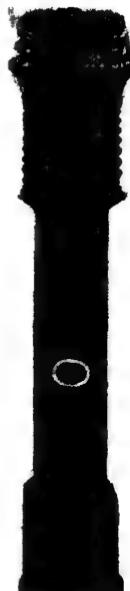
Other series of pictures in the same colour range and stitches are scenes of contemporary interest featuring stage coaches and the new steam engines and story pictures including an attractive scene of the Lady Godiva Procession. Historical and political pictures are slightly larger 5½ ins by 2½ ins with rather looser stitches and tend to be overcrowded with detail.

WILLIAM III'S ARMS ON A CLOCK

I have in my possession a clock with London case, about 1695, by John Barrow, of London elected a member of the Clockmakers' Company in 1681, Master in 1714. The height of the case is 7 ft 6 ins to the top of the cresting. The movement is in original and perfect condition. The tops and bases of the spirals flanking the dial and the oval aperture showing the pendulum are silvered gesso. Originally the hood could be lifted off to wind the movement but at some date the front was altered so that it could be opened. The base has been shortened a few inches but these are the only alterations that have been made.

It will be seen that the contemporary cresting incorporates the Royal arms and the escutcheon bears the personal arms of William III with the lion of the House of Orange in the centre which was only placed there on the death of Queen Mary in 1694 and of course dropped on the accession of Queen Anne. Engraved on the dial are three coronets just above the opening giving the day of the month. Do you think I am correct in thinking that the clock was made for William III?—RAYMOND BEST The Cross ways Peterchurch Herefordshire

At our request Mr Best supplied a detail photograph of the hood and cresting in addition to the photograph of the whole clock. But without actual examination of the hood it is not possible to give a definite opinion whether the cresting was made for the clock. It agrees in style and date with the design of the photograph of a similar piece, it appears to go with the clock although it is not as the detail photograph shows a perfect fit. Shrinkage of the cresting might account for this. Although some tall case clocks of the period had crestings in the form of scrolls swan-necked pediments and the like, we cannot recall a comparable example of a cresting so elaborately carved or one incorporating the Royal arms and shall be glad to hear from any reader who knows of a clock similarly crested. No doubt many of the original crestings like those of mahogany secretairea in the next century have been done away with owing to their fragile nature or to the added height given to the case. William III took a keen interest in clocks ordering many fine examples from Thomas Tompion and Daniel Quare but Barrow was hardly in the same rank as these. If the cresting is original—and it would be an extraordinary coincidence to find a cresting so nearly matching the clock case in



DETAIL OF THE HOOD OF A TALL CASE CLOCK (left) WITH CRESTING BEARING THE PERSONAL ARMS OF WILLIAM III (MAKER JOHN BARROW OF LONDON)

See quest. *William III's Arms on a Clock*

shape size and date—the clock is more likely to have been a gift from William III than an order for one of the Royal palaces

FOR THE BELL RINGERS

I was interested in the photograph and description in your issue of October 25, 1946, of a bell ringers' gosh from Beccles church. I am sending you a photograph of a similar jug in my possession which has twelve mugs to match. The floral designs are hand painted and brightly coloured. On all the mugs and on the jug is inscribed "Holmes to the Lord". There is no maker's mark on any of the pieces and I have been unable to trace the history of this very decorative set.—ADA WALLER, 56, Mount Street, Diss, Norfolk

The bell ringers' jug and mugs may be dated by their shape and style of painting about 1830. In the absence of a mark it is not possible to say with certainty where they were made but they are probably from a Staffordshire factory.

UNIDENTIFIED MINIATURE

I enclose a photograph of a miniature and am wondering whether any of your readers can identify the lady and the arms. The measurements are 2½ ins by 1½ ins. The lady's hair is red and her dress is black picked out in gold.—W. H. VINCENT, Garthlands, 66, Forrester Road, Bournemouth, Hampshire

Both the style of painting particularly



EARLY 17TH-CENTURY MINIATURE, PROBABLY FLEMISH

See quest. *Unidentified Miniature*

the treatment of the face and the type of ruff suggest that this is the work of a Flemish rather than an English miniaturist. The date will fall within the early years of the 17th century. The motto *Veru paues tuis* might provide a clue to the identity of the lady, but it is not recorded by Fairbairn, Elvin or Washbourne, and may only be an impressum chosen in the fashion of an emblem loving age not a family motto.

Questions intended for these pages should be forwarded to the Editor COUNTRY LIFE 2-10 Tavistock Street, W.C.2, and a stamped addressed envelope enclosed for reply. In no case should originals be sent nor can any valuation be made.

BELL-RINGERS' JUG AND MUGS CIRCA 1830
See quest. *For the Bell-ringers*

JULIANS, HERTFORDSHIRE—II

THE HOME OF THE HON. MRS. P. PLEYDELL-BOUVERIE

The Jacobean house, reshaped about 1715, became the home of the Metekerke family, of whom Anthony Trollope was a connection. The interior was re-cast in 1937-39, and has been changed since.

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

THREE phases in Julians' history can be pictured. The photographs show the rooms to-day; I knew them well before the war when, with another owner, some of them were quite different; and Thomas Adolphus Trollope, in *What I Remember* (1887) depicts the people living in them in 1820 or so, when they had evidently changed little for half a century. The continuity of this record, however, is more apparent than real. Colonel Reginald Cooper, who restored the house in 1937, altered and elaborated most of the rooms. Mrs. Pleydell-Bouverie, who acquired it in 1940, has changed the colouring and, of course, the contents of most of them; and, as inhabited by the Metekerkes, the house had been recast early in the 18th century from its brick gabled form of about 1605, of the interior of which we know nothing. This first transformation was probably due to Adolphus Metekerke and his wife Penelope, co-heiress of Thomas Stone, of Julians, married in 1699, who died respectively 1732 and 1746, and had succeeded to the place some time after 1700 when Stone's widow was still living in the Jacobean house portrayed by Chauncy in that year. Their reason for altering the house was

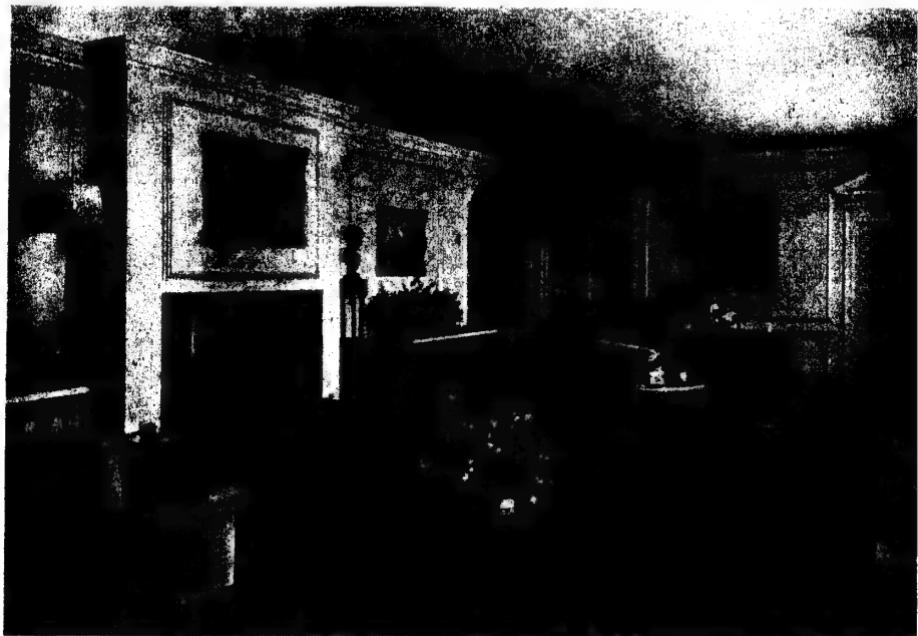


1.—THE SOUTH FRONT, FROM THE FORECOURT

no doubt to accommodate their numerous children, so the work may well have not become necessary till a decade or so after the eldest son was born in 1703.

Adolphus Metekerke, Fellow of New

College, was great-grandson of Sir Adolphus Metekerke, a native of Bruges, and one of the leaders in the war of independence in the Netherlands against Spain. The latter, known to readers of Motley, was a remarkable



2.—THE ENTRANCE HALL

man. A scholar, author of numerous works (*De Veteri Pronunciatione Linguae Graecae* was published at Bruges 1565 and often reprinted), a member of the States General, in which capacity he had made several official visits to England, and ultimately President of the High Court of Flanders. In the latter rôle he attempted by a *coup* the surrender of Leyden to the Earl of Essex's force in 1587, on the failure of which he had to seek refuge in England. He was officially welcomed, knighted, appointed Ambassador to Queen Elizabeth by the States General, and on his death in 1591 was buried in St. Botolph's, Aldersgate. On the rebuilding of the church in 1754 his monument was re-erected in Rushden Church. His eldest son, Colonel Nicolas Metekerke, greatly distinguished himself against the Spaniards but was killed at Deventer in the year his father died. A younger son, Edward, who inherited his scholarly disposition, rose to be Professor of Hebrew at Oxford (Christ Church) and sired the English branch of the family. It was a grandson of his who, by taking Penelope Stone as his second wife, established it as a county family.

The Trollopes' relationship arose from another Penelope—a daughter of the second Adolphus Metekerke, of Julians (1703-84)—marrying the Rev. Anthony Trollope, Rector of neighbouring Cottered (another daughter, incidentally, married Mr. John Boodle, of Ongar), who died 1806 and was father of Thomas Anthony.

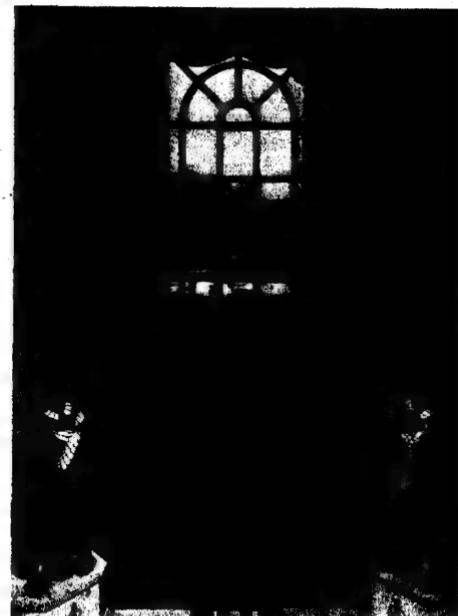


3.—FROM THE ENTRANCE HALL

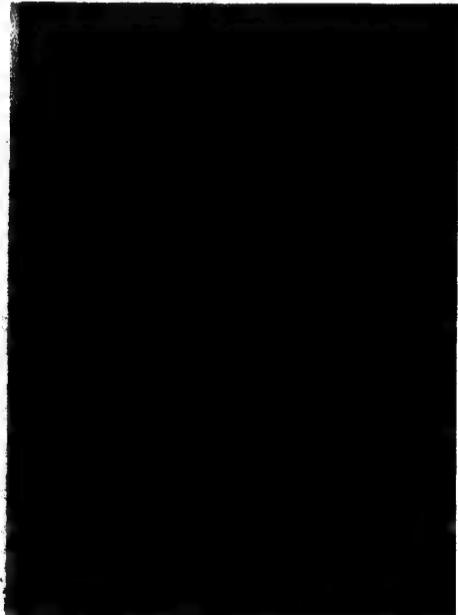
the father of the novelists. It is the elder and less well remembered of these, Thomas Adolphus, who has left us a description of the Trollopes' annual visits to Julians. Uncle and aunt Metekerke were a childless couple, and had designated the T. A. Trollope, father and son, as heirs to the place. While something of the Metekerke strain may be responsible for the literary fecundity of the boys, its physical vitality unexpectedly diverted Julians from becoming their home. Thomas Adolphus's picture of the old couple is so vivid that it merits fairly full quotation:—

He was a good old man, was old Adolphus Metekerke; a good landlord, a kindly natured man, a good sportsman, an active magistrate, and a good husband to his old wife. But there was a sort of flavour of roughness about the old squire and his surroundings which impressed me, and would, I take it, nowadays be deemed clownish rusticity.

Right well do I remember the look and figure of my Aunt Metekerke. She was an admirable specimen of a Squire, as people and things were in those days. I suppose there was not a poor man or woman in the parish with whose affairs of all sorts she was



4.—THE STAIRCASE WINDOW, FROM THE LANDING



5.—THE QUEEN ANNE STAIRCASE



6.—FLOWERY ENGLISH CHINA IN THE LIBRARY



7.—ROCKINGHAM, CHELSEA AND WORCESTER CHINA. In a jade green and gilt niche in the library

not intimately acquainted and to whom she did not play the part of an ever-active providence. She always came down to breakfast clad in a green riding habit, and passed most of her life on horseback. After dinner, in the long low drawing-room, with its faded stone-coloured curtains and bookless desert spaces, she always slept, as peacefully as she does now in Rushden churchyard. She never meddled at all with housekeeping. That was in the hands of "Mrs. Anne," an old maiden sister of Mr. Metekerke, a prim, apple-faced, most good-natured little woman. She always carried a little basket in her hand in which were the keys and a never-changed volume of Miss Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. Though a very precise sort of person, she would frequently come down to breakfast a few minutes late, to find her brother sitting on the hearthrug with his prayer book in

his hand waiting for her arrival to begin prayers to the assembled household. He had a wonderfully strong rasping voice, the tones of which were rarely modulated. I can hear now his reverberating "Five minutes too late again, Mrs. Anne; Dearly beloved brethren . . ." While at the conclusion, the transition from "Amen" to "William, bring round the brown man after breakfast" was equally unmarked by any pause or change of voice.

Sunday church was similarly dominated by the stentorian squire who, after the sermon,

would sing out to the vicar, as he was descending the pulpit stairs, "Come up to dinner, Skinner!" And then we all marched out, while the rustics, still retaining their places, made their obeisances as we passed. . . .

My father was at that time Mr. Metekerke's declared heir, and would doubtless have inherited his property had childless old



8.—THE DINING-ROOM

Mrs. Metekerke lived. But one day she unexpectedly took off her green habit for the last time, and in a day or two was laid in the little more perennial green in the little churchyard! Mr. Metekerke was at that time over sixty. But he was as fine an old man physically as anybody could wish to see. Before long he married a young wife, and became the father of six children!

The early Georgian character of the first Metekerke's alterations to Juliania was taken as the keynote of the restoration in 1937, which emphasised and elaborated it. The staircase and dining-room alone did not call for remodelling. Colonel Cooper gave the entrance hall its present form but in addition had the wood-work marbled and grained, adapting the remarkable example of that style of Queen Anne decoration preserved at the Parsonage House, Stanton Harcourt (COUNTRY LIFE, July 19 and 26, 1941).

The walnut basis was varied with *verde antico* and other low-toned marbling settings off contemporary gilt and lacquered furniture, and contrasting with the black and white marble floor. The scheme, however, did not suit the late 18th-century furniture and French Impressionist

paintings of Mrs. Pleydell-Bouverie, who accordingly painted the walls white (Fig. 2), creating an equally pleasing effect. Three Sisley's hang on the fireplace wall, Degas's *Blanchisseuses* at the end, and canvases by Renoir, Corot and Daubigny on the other walls. The furniture includes an elegant pair of late Georgian marble-topped side-tables and the very notable commode inlaid with satinwood, rosewood and harewood seen in the illustration.

Corresponding to the hall on the north is the dining-room (Fig. 8), lined with waxed pine wainscot and with a screen of dark marbled columns. It has a three-windowed bay opposite the fireplace, and the whole looks as though it was done up later in the 18th century than the rest of the house. Here the only restoration required was the making up of some of the paneling. The present white Regency furniture was in Mrs. Pleydell-

Bouverie's possession at Home House, Regent's Park. This is the only room now answering to Trollope's description of the drawing-room where Mrs. Metekerke slept after dinner, though possibly this was situated to the west of the hall where the space is now occupied by the library (Fig. 6) and a lobby beyond. The new partition centres in an attractive old alcove (Fig. 7) painted jade green and gilt which, with the upper shelves of the bookcases, provides a delightful setting for a collection of Rockingham, Chelsea and Worcester china. This, and fat vases of flowers, in the arrangement of which Mrs. Pleydell-Bouverie seems to me particularly skilful, are set off by the dark walnut of the woodwork. The rug is a particularly pleasant one—Bessarabian, woven with huge white or pinkish roses and brownish leaves on a cinnamon ground. From the library a side door opens to the lawn stretching a hundred yards or so westward to a little wood carpeted in spring with bulbs.

There is another most effective view of the garden—this time the northern part of it—through the big window of the staircase (Fig. 4) which rises beyond the archway in the corner of the hall. The beautiful staircase itself, with spiral and fluted balusters, columnar newels and panelled and shaped dado, is typical of the Queen Anne period, when, with the thick barred sash window, it was no doubt put in by Adolphus and Penelope Metekerke. How curiously more alluring the view through dark thick bars looks than through thin ones or plate glass! The reason probably is that heavy bars emphasise the plane of the window so that we are conscious of the view beyond being on another, and so see two superimposed pat-

terns; also the dark bars perhaps intensify the colours of the view, as does the leading of old stained glass. This window and view is all the more effective because of the low tone and mellow colouring of the staircase walls, painted for Colonel Cooper with dark marble columns and brown and gilt entablature against a bistre background containing suggestions of landscape, figures in niches, drapery, etc.; the whole in the manner of the decorative painting of Queen Anne's time. If execution falls below the high level of the Thornhill school decorations, the general tonal effect is very attractive. The window is framed in draperies of a dull deep rose coloured silk, and it is difficult to say whether the staircase looks best with them open or drawn.



9.—MRS. PLEYDELL-BOUVIERIE'S BEDROOM

There is a subsidiary staircase, perhaps in the position of the Jacobean one, at the other end of the dining-room. But the principal bedrooms open off the head of the main stairs. The chief of these is Mrs. Pleydell-Bouverie's (Fig. 9) over the hall and fitted with modern 'bolection' wainscoting. It is dominated by very fine Savonnerie carpet, in rose, biscuit, blue, and dark brown shades and contains further examples of French Impressionist painting: two lovely Boudin *plages* and an attractive Pissarro (above the firewood and tulipwood writing-table). Another, the southward, bedroom (Fig. 10) dates from 1937 in its present form. The photograph shows two particularly effective details of decoration: the design of the chimney breast, with the separate mantel-shelf (marbled black like the fireplace) carried on scrolled brackets—an arrangement copied from a house at Bath; and the grouping of a collection of china blackamoores of various sorts on the hanging shelf beyond—a small but felicitous touch in this black and white room.

Uncle and Aunt Metekerke and Mrs. Anne would certainly not recognise Julians as its present and recent owners have thus beautified it; nor the equally lovely garden, which will form the subject of a third article. But those worthy characters would be quite at home in the adjoining farm buildings from which the recent no less than the past squires and squireses of Julians have continued very actively to cultivate the surrounding acres.

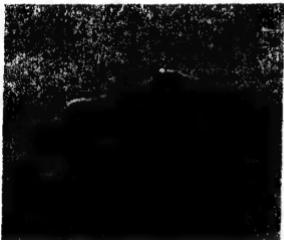
Adolphus Metekerke died in 1844, his son Adolphus in 1879 leaving two daughters, of whom Mrs. Metcalfe died in 1918 leaving Julians to a niece, Lady Cockburn, daughter of her sister, Mrs. Ewing. The late Lady Cockburn sold the property in 1919 to a company and it was used as a farm till acquired by Colonel Cooper.



10.—BLACK AND WHITE IN A BEDROOM

(To be concluded)

THE HAUNTS OF THE HEN-HARRIER



Written and Illustrated by

ERIC HOSKING and
CYRIL NEWBERRY



THE HEN-HARRIERS CALL AS THEY FLY OVER THE NESTING AREA.

(Left) THE MALE, (right) THE FEMALE

HARD as the hen-harrier has tried to maintain a place among the avifauna of the mainland, it has usually found the opposition too great; only at the hands of the kindly disposed islanders of Orkney and possibly of some of the Hebrides has it received protection and been preserved.

The Orcadians are rightly proud of their bird-life, and we found them very ready to assist us in our expeditions to the haunts of the red-necked phalarope, the red-throated diver, and the merganser, to name just a few of the interesting species that, in addition to the hen-harrier, are to be found in those enchanting islands. To mention only two names among so many kindly folk may seem scant recognition of the help we received, but we cannot refrain from acknowledging the services of Mr. George Arthur and Mr. Eddie Balfour, whose expert knowledge of the local birds was put readily at our disposal and through whose kindness we were able to achieve much of the success that attended our expedition.

As we climbed the treeless, wind-swept hillside to the heather-clad moors where the hen-harrier was nesting, we looked back and marvelled at the views and the extraordinarily clear atmosphere. Below us we were working in the distant fields, and beyond them stretched the rugged coast-line with its rocky promontories standing firm against the ceaseless battering of the grey sea.

We went on and upward, and presently

saw our quarry circling ahead of us. What a thrilling moment that was. We had previously watched Montagu's harriers and marsh-harriers many times, but although we had seen it in winter on the Norfolk marshes, here was our first meeting on its nesting-grounds with the remaining member of the family of harriers that breed in Great Britain. Its similarity to Montagu's harrier is at once apparent, and but for the circumstances we could not have been certain at a distance which bird we were actually seeing. We came closer to where we understood the nest to be and the male flew close above us, uttering a scolding note: "ke-ke-ke-ke-ke." Now we could see the beautiful very pale slate-coloured plumage and dark wing-tips, and we were close enough to notice the features that distinguish the hen-harrier from Montagu's harrier—the pure white rump and the absence of a dark bar on the secondaries. The wings were slightly arched as the bird glided by, and the primaries, spread like fingers at each extremity of the three-foot span, gave an impression of enormous power.

The nest, substantially built of heather and grass, was on the ground in a clump of mixed heather and rush. It was in a dry place but near a boggy patch of ground where water seemed to trickle continually from the peaty surface and where mosses and ferns flourished and were picked by the harriers for nest decoration. There were four eggs, bluish-white in colour, and they were well set and quite

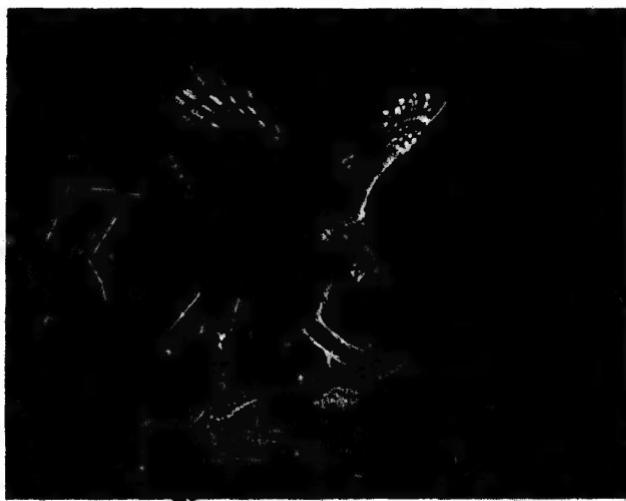
warm when we first saw them in early June. We kept the hen-harriers under observation and noted that the hen appeared to be doing all the incubation and was being fed by the cock. Sometimes he visited the nest, but more often he caught the prey, brought it back to the vicinity of the nest, and then called the hen off to take the prey from him in the air. Often the pass took place within a few yards of the nest and only a few feet above the ground and, although the prey was sometimes transferred directly from one bird to the other, it was more usual for the hen to fly below the cock and to catch the prey as it was dropped to her. Interesting as this spectacle was, it lacked the thrill of the dashing food-pass of the hobby that we described in COUNTRY LIFE of April 4, and there seemed to be little ceremony about it.

One egg hatched on June 15 and another on the 17th, but the two remaining eggs were added. The hen spent a great deal of time at the nest and her mate had the opportunity to study her and her behaviour with the young. She was a delightful study in brown and buff, and her keen, bright, yellow eyes had all the fascination that is to be expected in a bird of prey. But for all that she was remarkably docile in appearance and manners and contrasted very strongly with another female hen-harrier that was nesting at the same time not far away. This other bird had a fierce expression that in no way belied her, and every time we approached her nest both she and her mate would attack us violently and keep up the attacks until we made our departure: so much so, in fact, that on one occasion we were able to use up two spools of 35 mm. film (70 exposures) as the birds dived at us and flew close around.

The harriers we were studying, on the other hand, were themselves subjected to frequent attacks by a pair of merlins whose nest was about three hundred yards away. Whenever the harriers took to the air the cock merlin flew at them with incredible speed, calling wildly as he mobbed them. It was an amazing sight. The merlin looked no bigger than a thrush in comparison with the three-foot spread of the harrier, but he made circles round the bigger bird and dived again and again to the attack. Sometimes the harrier would roll over on to her back and strike upwards with her talons, but the merlin was much too quick. He swerved and swung up out of harm's way, only to renew the attack with another dive. Sometimes in this way the merlin would force the harrier to the ground, where she would sit, ducking her head at each fresh onslaught. These attacks might last as much as twenty minutes before the merlin, tiring of the sport, returned to the vicinity of his own nest.

Regardless of these attacks, however, the hen-harriers carried on with their task. Feeding-times for the young seemed to be very irregular, with sometimes as many as three feeds in an hour and at other times long intervals of two and three hours without a feed.

The food was collected over a fairly wide range of country and appeared to be very varied. Small birds, mammals and even worms seemed to be included in the



THE FEMALE HEN-HARRIER BRINGING FRESH BUILDING MATERIAL TO ADD TO THE NEST

diet, but positive identification was difficult in many instances since the victims were usually decapitated and rather mutilated by the time they were brought to the nest.

Only on one occasion did we see the female hen-harrier bring in food that she had caught herself. She relied almost entirely on her mate for hunting; but she was very industrious in bringing back material for adding to the nest and for decorating it. Over and over again between feeding times she went to and from the nest, returning each time with an enormous bill-full of grass or heather twigs which at first were just dumped on top of the nest and even on top of the sleeping young. Later, during a period of brooding the chicks, and more particularly during the long spell on the nest at night, she would keep herself busy working this new material into the nest structure.

When they were about ten days old, the young harriers, which at first had been well clad in white down, were beginning to show a change of plumage. The down on their backs was gradually turning to a dark grey, but it was noticeable that, exactly as in the young Montagu's and marsh-harriers, there remained a white patch on the back of the head. The breast was now a pinkish colour. The eyes of the young were large and

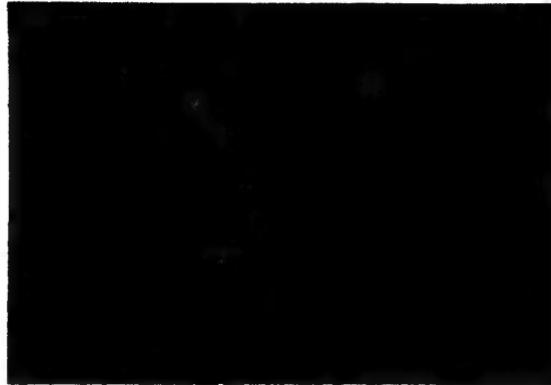


THE FEMALE HEN-HARRIER FACES THE CAMERA

very dark—quite different from the yellow eyes of the adults.

About this same time the chicks were becoming rather more active and were moving about the nest; on occasions they even climbed over the rim of the nest. They came back for food, however, and were, in fact, still brooded a good deal by the hen. It was at this time, as well, that we first saw one of the young cast a pellet. It first started to yawn, then a moment later brought up a pellet and shook its head to drop it into the nest. The hen, when she next returned, immediately picked up the pellet, flew off with it and dropped it some fifty yards away. Although there seemed to be no particular fussing by these birds in the matter of nest-cleaning, they did in fact keep the nest very clean and surplus food was never allowed to remain on it for long. The hen would either eat it herself or fly away with it. On one occasion she appeared to be playing, and as she carried away an unwanted mouse she dropped it a few feet and caught it again before she reached the ground. Again, as she did the same thing and then alighted in the heather some distance away. She remained down out of sight for a few moments and when she rose again she was without the mouse. She had either left it there or eaten it herself.

Although we could not stop with the hen-harrier throughout the fledging period, it was a most interesting time that we did spend with her; and as we sat in the hide on that Orkney moorland we were continuously entertained by a never-ending stream of birds passing to and fro. Curlew and golden plover piped their haunting notes near by, and great black-backed gulls wheeled overhead as they returned to their nests beyond the crest of the hill. All too soon we had to take leave of these hospitable islands, but we reflected with a little satisfaction that, in the safe keeping of the Orkneys, the hen-harrier was likely to maintain its place in the list of British birds.



THE FEMALE CALLING TO THE MALE, WHICH WAS CIRCLING OVERHEAD



ON THE ALERT: THE FEMALE HEN-HARRIER WITH A BEAKFUL OF GRASS



ONE OF THE TWO YOUNG HEN-HARRIERS IN DOWN SITS BESIDE THE FEMALE AS SHE BROODS THE OTHER

HERBAGE SEED PRODUCTION

A CRUCIAL JUNCTURE IN NATIONAL FARMING POLICY. By SIR R. GEORGE STAPLEDON

THESE days we are all prone to look rather wistfully into the future in the hope that somewhere we may discern the promise of firm ground upon which to build. During the war years we have learned that the soil and climate of our little island have considerable potentialities for food production, and we have greatly increased in the means and modes of turning these potentialities to the best national advantage. The farmer and the countryman know where firm ground is to be found, and the townsmen has, at least, some inkling that it lies at his very doorstep. We stand at the crossways, wavering still whether to build or to undermine.

In order to make an ally and not an enemy of our high rainfall, and in order both to husband soil fertility and produce an abundance of milk and other livestock products it has become an urgent necessity vastly to increase our flocks and herds. Under present conditions, and almost certainly for many years to come, substantial increase will be attainable in almost direct proportion as we can augment the self-sufficiency of our farms in all-the-year feed for livestock. This we can only do by proper systems of cropping and by making the best possible use of that crop which is pre-eminent, particularly in our higher rainfall areas, namely, grass. I have always maintained that the health and vigour of our agriculture can best be judged against the acreage in permanent grass. When the acreage is being rapidly reduced, then everywhere is evidence of drive, purpose and enthusiasm animating our farming endeavours. Judged by my infallible criterion there are unmistakable indications of that wavering to which I have referred, for since 1944 the acreage in permanent grass has actually increased and not decreased, and at 9,932,000 acres it stands at a ridiculously high figure in relation to our national needs and in relation to the 3,711,000 acres in leys.

Ley! This is the key word, and it brings me to the heart of my subject. The ley is grass grown as a crop, and grown for a special purpose. A ley will be a ley for as long as it consists predominantly of the strains of grasses and clovers which were sown and as long as it fulfils supremely the purposes for which it was intended. Lseys may be left down for varying periods of time, and the tendency more and more will be to use a number of different leys (each sown with a special seeds mixture) on one and the same farm. Distinction will be increas-



A FIRST SEED CROP OF THE PASTURE STRAIN OF TIMOTHY S.50

ingly made between hay leys and grazing leys, while the several grazing leys will be sown and managed with a view to both increasing the length of the grazing season and maintaining production at a high level throughout the season over the farm as a whole.

Already we have evidence that it is within the power of the plant breeder decisively to contribute to advances in the above directions. Plant breeding, as applied to herbage plants, is, however, in its infancy and consequently we are only at the threshold of the possibilities opened up by growing grass as a crop rather than accepting the limitations imposed by reliance predominantly upon permanent pasture. It is not, however, fully realised that plant breeding and home seed production are twin sisters. The work of the plant breeder can be of no practical value unless his varieties and strains which have proved their merit are made

available to the farmer in the form of properly authenticated seed. This is only possible if seed is produced in the country where it has been bred and under a regulated system of inspection and certification of crops. It is perfectly true that in some cases varieties and strains bred in one country may prove of great value in other countries also. This has been markedly so in respect of oats bred at Svalof in Sweden, many of which have assumed the importance of standard varieties in this country, while the best strains of white clover, perennial rye grass and cocksfoot imported from New Zealand have a definite application in Britain. None the less the best results are always to be obtained from special-purpose plant breeding conducted in the region and under conditions of soil and climate where the crops will grow.

The intimate connection between plant breeding and seed production adds emphasis to the importance of making a well-fertilised and well-protected home seed production industry to do so is but little less essential with a view to increasing the all-round self-sufficiency of our farms and farming, while herbage seed production when conducted in the more favourable districts fits in well with ley farming.

During the war years, the home production of herbage seeds was a dire necessity, remunerative prices were assured, and with the establishment of seed growers' associations and the organisation of a proper system of inspection and certification, great progress was made, with the result that a firm foundation upon which to build has been created. The great question now at issue is whether the Ministry of Agriculture, and all the interests concerned, including the farmers themselves, fully appreciate the importance of the matter and will be prepared to face the many new problems which now present themselves.

The foundation is worth a moment's consideration. There are now in England and Wales 41 seed growers' associations or seed specialist branches of the National Farmers' Union. This represents a striking development compared with the position before the war. It is, however, the natural growth of a movement which was slowly gaining momentum during the difficult inter-war years. Perhaps even more striking is the rapid increase in the production of Aberystwyth-bred strains of grasses and clovers. In 1940 there were only 1,522 acres in seed crops of all the strains, but by 1945 this had been increased to no less than 21,974 acres, while the



A SECOND-YEAR CROP OF S.37 COCKSFoot

area recorded for 1946 was 18,187 acres. The various strains of perennial rye grass (S.23 and S.101), cocksfoot (S.26, S.37 and S.143) and white clover (S.100) have contributed most to these acreages.

During the war years the Ministry of Agriculture with proper foresight was encouraging seed production and the growers' prices were maintained at a comparatively uniform and sufficiently attractive level. The position has now changed and is charged with a dangerous element of uncertainty. In relation to actual demand there is a surplus of seed of the cocksfoot strains, and the growers have been advised to graze or mow some proportion of their current stands. This situation as to cocksfoot raises a number of important questions, chief of which is the precise value and usefulness of the different strains, including both those bred in this country and such as are imported. The plant breeder has not yet produced a full range of strains of the several species to suit all purposes and thus at present, for example, the best strains of Danish cocksfoot have a real usefulness under specific systems of management in this country, while for such specific purposes S.37 cocksfoot is not and was never meant to be a perfect substitute.

It is, however, perhaps open to question whether the importation of Danish cocksfoot is justified while there is a surplus of home-produced strains which would fill all needs comparatively well. It is generally agreed that cocksfoot is the surest seed copper and the easiest to harvest of the several herbage species, and consequently, if we are to maintain a healthy home industry in herbage seed production, it is essential that there should be an assured market for a fairly large acreage in cocksfoot—this to set off the acreages in seed crops that are more susceptible to the vagaries of the weather.

We must remember that the majority of the Aberystwyth strains were explicitly bred for the longer leys and although most of them—perhaps especially S.100 white clover, S.37 cocksfoot and S.23 perennial rye grass—under appropriate management have proved invaluable for three-year leys, none the less they should be, and almost certainly will be, in greater demand in proportion as the average length of the ley is increased.

The war experience has emphasised the subtlety of the differential response of the several strains of one and the same species to varying intensities of grazing and different times of cutting. A great deal more research is called for on this question, for it is only when we know precisely how to manage the different strains with a view to achieving desired results that the full value of such strains can be appreciated and abundantly demonstrated.

I can illustrate this point by reference to three strains in particular. S.24 perennial rye grass was bred by Dr. Jenkins as an improved substitute for the ordinary Irish rye grass. The point about S.24 is that it starts growth quite as early as Irish but produces much more early leafage, and it tends to be longer lived. We need to study systems of management that concentrate both properties. I bred S.143 cocksfoot for the main purpose of withstanding heavy sheep grazing under relatively poor conditions, and in my view this strain is not being sufficiently used by the hill and marginal land sheep farmer, while in clever hands it is popular under conditions for which the strain was not explicitly bred. S.46 timothy is of great interest and, when given proper periods of rest and its management better understood, in my opinion will prove to be an invaluable addition to our herbage plants. It can be made to yield an abundance of early and of late grass. Perhaps the chief merit of S.100 white clover is that it will stand longer periods of rest and consequently more competition from the grasses than will wild white clover. S.100, therefore, is of great value for hay, silage and grass drying as well as a companion with grasses like S.46 timothy, and to some extent cocksfoot, which fully to justify themselves as pasture plants demand longer periods of rest than perennial rye grass.

It is more difficult to ascertain and appre-

ciate all the properties of a herbage strain than of a cereal variety, but it is only upon the acquisition of such knowledge and its widespread dissemination amongst farmers that we shall be able to maintain live and healthy home seed industries against free imports of other, and, dare I say, for certain outstanding exceptions, less desirable strains from overseas.

Even given full knowledge and full appreciation it will, however, be necessary to do everything possible to improve and cheapen our methods of seed production and to devise means for the safe harvesting and proper conditioning of the seed when the weather is unfavourable.

Thanks to the efforts of pioneer seed growers, rapid advances are being made, and looking to the future it would seem evident that the needs of the farmers who use the seeds,

and of the agricultural industry as a whole, will be the better served in proportion as seed growing is exclusively undertaken by specialists fully equipped with all necessary field and barn implements, machinery and devices. That is the road to cheaper production and to scale prices on all-round efficiency and cheap production. By about 1953 it should be possible to have vastly increased the number of fully productive flocks and herds. Then will be the time when the acreage in leys should greatly exceed that in permanent grass and when the right strains of herbage seeds in sufficient quantities and reasonably cheap will be of crucial importance. In the meantime everything possible should be done to improve the technique of ley management and of seed production and to consolidate the position of the efficient specialist seed grower.

ABE MITCHELL

By BERNARD DARWIN

GOLF is the poorer by the death of Abe Mitchell, a very great golfer and a most charming and modest creature. I had not seen him since the war, but had not heard that he was ill, so that the news of his death came as a sudden shock. He was only in his sixtieth year, but already for some years before the war his appearances had been few and he had faded out of golf at an earlier age than do most of the distinguished professionals.

By temperament he was, I fancy, one of



A DRAWING BY CHARLES AMBROSE OF ABE MITCHELL AS AN AMATEUR IN 1910

those who like golf as a quiet, friendly game rather than as a stern public combat. There are some who love the "crowd and urgency" of big golf, to whom the trampling of feet behind them is an inspiring music. Abe was not one of these. He had plenty of courage and could fight well, but I think it always went a little against the grain with him to have to do it. And so, many as were his victories, they were neither so many nor so great as his transcendent merits as a striker of the ball deserved. He was as one of those athletes who gain the reputation of being great runners but disappointing racers. He was so very good that it is in a sense the highest compliment one can pay to his quality to say that he ought to have done much better still.

In thinking of him my mind goes back to his early days as an amateur, when he was still

working as a gardener at his native Ashdown Forest, the home of a clan of golfing Mitchells. To the best of my belief I first met him at Hoylake in 1910, when I played on the same England side with him. Incidentally he used now and then in his professional days to wear his Amateur International tie, and I remember his saying to me once in his pleasant, diffident way, "I suppose it's all right for me to wear this, isn't it?" He blazed into sudden fame that year, winning his match against Scotland, reaching the semi-final of the Championship and astonishing everyone by the tremendous power of his hitting.

I think it was in the next summer that I had a house near Forest Row, and got to know him better and played some games with him. In the first I got him to the last green; in the next I was far less fortunate. The chief thing I remember about those games was that he was so often in the heather, not from driving crooked, but simply from driving too far, right across the fairway and into the heathy belt beyond it. He was, I think, a longer driver then, with a longer swing, than in his professional days. His carrying power begged description, and I recall in one game his pitching his tee shot right over the little chalk pit and on to the 15th green. His iron play was likewise immensely long, but not nearly so crisp and compact as it became later, and indeed his whole game was more rugged and less polished than in his heyday as a professional.

Abe will probably be best remembered not for the many victories he did win, such as the *News of the World* tournament three times, but for two triumphs which rather tragically escaped him, one when he was an amateur and one after he had turned professional.

Nobody who saw it will ever forget his final of the Amateur Championship against John Ball at Westward Ho! in 1912. It was one of the matches that fairly deserve the epithet "historic." Abe, who naturally had a considerable advantage in length, was three up at lunch. It was said afterwards that John Ball had declared before starting on the second round that if he could halve the first three holes he thought he might just do it. The wind gave his adversary his best chance at those first three holes, but John did better than he had tentatively prophesied, for he won one of them. Then he had a bit of luck at the short hole: he was right on Abe's heels now, and then what a match followed!

All square with three to play, and John got round an apparently dead stymie at the 18th with an aluminium putter of all clubs in the world, and gained his half. I can still see his face before he played that shot as he looked at his opponent with an odd quizzical smile. I can see poor Abe's face, too, on the home green. He was one up, and he had a putt such as onlookers call short—perhaps it was four feet—for the match and the championship. He missed it and made a little gesture of smothered despair. And then, after a half at the 37th, with a fine recovery by either player, Abe topped into a

ditch in front of his nose at the 38th, and it was all over.

The disaster at Deal in 1920 was far more poignant. On the first day Abe led the field by six, while shots, with Sandy Herd second and Duncan, promised his most dangerous rival, no less than thirteen behind. Surely nothing could stop him now, for he was playing magnificently and had seemed full of confidence. The story of his downfall has often been told: how he had a late start on the last day and instead of staying snug in his room, unwisely came up to the course and hung about in the chilly air; how finally, as he set out, a burst of cheering announced Duncan round in 71.

I walked out with him for the first five holes, and it was like going to see a man hanged. Nothing very dreadful happened for a while, but the strokes kept slipping away; three putts,

after a not very good pitch, at the first hole, and again at the second, and yet again at the Sandy Parcours. And then came the real, crushing calamity, a tee shot topped into the bunker straight in front of him from the fifth tee, two to get out, an ensuing seven, and then a long, utterly dreary wait on the sixth teeing ground. I could hear it no more and went back to the club.

I have seen plenty of golfing tragedies, but that was the most heart-breaking and to my mind it had an enduring effect on Abe Mitchell's career. I know that "ifs and ans" are essentially futile, but I shall always think that if he had got a decent start that morning Abe would have won that championship and, further, that if he had won that one he would have won several more.

As it was he never did win the Championship or even come very near to doing so, but

what a glorious hitter of the ball he was! There was such immense strength in those big hands of his, with their now old-fashioned "two V" grip, and the left forefinger almost overlapping the right hand. There was a terrific suggestion of power in the right arm as it came through, fighting, so it seemed, against the left which was holding it back. There was a fascination all its own in that clipped finish. And Abe's long iron shots up to the pin when he had pruned the exuberance of his rather long swing were a model of accuracy and power combined. There was nobody else who played in the least like him; and I can think of very few others who have given me such a rich sensual pleasure in the watching. Forest Row has produced one Open Champion and a very fine one in Padgham. It certainly ought to have had another in Abe Mitchell, for he was a mighty golfer.

CORRESPONDENCE

PLAN FOR THE CITY OF LONDON

SIR.—Your admirable article on the new plan for the City of London (June 13) prompts me to express the hope that, besides all the practical and architectural advantages, some and more intimate amenities will not be forgotten. They are, of course, of insignificant importance compared with height regulations, density of population, traffic and parking problems, etc., but they should be considered, and left in all together.

Here are some points which I hope will not be forgotten:—

(1) Trees: I hope not always planes. If planes, limes and horse-chestnuts are planted, I hope that they will often be cut and pleached (as at present) so as to keep good effect abroad to harmonise with their architectural surroundings, and not left to grow into inappropriate forest trees at present.

(2) Creepers and shrubs in tubs: Often a small court or precinct or back alleys will be made cleaner and more attractive by making tubs of shrubs (or addition of ever so many creepers) shrub as golden privet in a tub, or an ugly wall decked with Virginia creeper. Not even London soil can kill these stalwarts. There are many existing courts that should be so improved.

(3) Pavements: I hope some of the paved courts will be in varying materials and patterns like the very effective court outside St. Mary Abchurch.

(4) Fountains: Why not? There is water underneath London, and it should be used decoratively (as in Rome or Paris) and not in little squirts from a granite hideout as so often happens in London.

(5) Gardens: I hope this problem of City gardens (even if only a few square yards) will taken seriously. At present (with such notable exceptions as St. John Zachary and St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, and a few others) some are a disgrace. There are

two societies that I feel sure would be ready to help—the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association and the London Gardens Society. Cannot the Worshipful Company of Gardeners take the problem up energetically and give it a go?

I should like to see a further exhibition as an adjunct to that at the Guildhall, in which improvements on the above lines are shown, both for existing London and for the parts to be rebuilt in the future.—JOHN CONYBEARE (Lieut.-Col.), 22, Eaton Mansions, South, S.W.1.

THE LAST ETON MONTEM

SIR.—Reading Mr. Hussey's recent article on the last Eton Montem, I recalled an item of family annals that may interest some of your readers. The last captain of Montem was my father, the Hon. George Herbert, afterwards Dean of Hereford (1825-94). He had been a chorister and had been nineteenth and Captain of the School. His page was the late Viscount Boyne, who I see was born in 1809 and sq. will have been fourteen.

I remember my father saying how handsome his page had looked in his Montem uniform, and that they would be Queen and the Prince Consort on the Windsor Road and claimed the customary toll in exchange for salt. We still have the Montem purse carried by the Captain—a magnificent affair of dark blue velvet and lined with white satin, with the Eton and St. George crest embroidered on it in gold lace.—WYNFRAD HUNBERT, 25, Cumberland Mansions, W.1.

A WEST-COUNTRY FOLLY

SIR.—With reference to recent correspondence about Blaise Castle Mansion near Bristol, which is to become a folk museum, you may care to see the enclosed photograph of the castle itself, in which the Bristol Corporation, the present owners of the property, are considering installing a camera obscura. This 18th-century folly (it was



BLAISE CASTLE, NEAR BRISTOL, A SUGGESTED SITE FOR A CAMERA OBSCURA

See letter: A West-Country Folly

built in 1776 by Thomas Farr, a merchant, to serve as a look-out and retreat, for the then huge sum of £10,000, and has been much damaged by looters (much of the Georgian Rococo work and plaster carvings in the interior have been wantonly smashed), and it is estimated that its reconditioning will cost from £1,000 to £2,000.—R. W., Bristol.

AN ARTIST IN HURDLING

From Sir Ivo W. H. Thompson, Bt.
Sir.—In *The Arts of Hurdling*, in your issue of June 13, Lieut.-Col. F. A. M. Webster states that Lord Burghley "was not heard of as an athlete at Eton."

If my memory serves me aright, Lord Burghley won the Junior Hurdles in 1921 and the School Hurdles in 1922 and 1923. I think he first used the

straight-leg in 1922.—Ivo W. H. THOMPSON, *The Dover House*, Escrick, York.

FOR CARRYING WATER IN PORTUGAL

SIR.—One of the loveliest sights in the market at Portimao in the Algarve province of Portugal is rows of beautifully shaped water-jars standing in the sun, a showpiece of my photographs. These jars, the largest of which are about four feet high, are two-handled, of unglazed clay, in colour varying from "off white" to palest terra-cotta, and one often sees them carried on shoulder or hip as in ancient Egypt, or even as in India, to carry drinking water from the town of Monchique to the surrounding districts. Monchique has been a spa since the Roman occupation of Portugal. The actual modern spa, however, Caldas de Monchique, is rather farther down the hillside than the town itself, and the water is transported to the neighbouring towns by various ways, perhaps on a donkey's back, where two jars are held in place on each side by a wooden yoke, or in very decorative carts, drawn by horses or mules, as illustrated in my other picture.

The carts are of Moorish origin, with an arched canvas cover over a light framework, usually painted mainly green, with a conventional design in gay colours, bright blue, magenta and yellow. Inside is a wooden framework in three stems with which the two jars are held.

DOROTHY BLACKHAM (Mrs.), 40, *Fitzwilliam Square*, Dublin, Eire.

SNAKEHEADS IN A COLLEGE MEADOW

SIR.—A correspondent in your issue of June 6, 1947, notes that the abundance of frogs in the Meadow of Magdalen College, Oxford, is attributable to the flowers being protected from pickers. This is partly the reason,



ROWS OF WATER-JARS IN THE MARKET AT PORTIMAO, PORTUGAL. (Right) A WATER-CART IN THE PROVINCE OF ALGARVE.

See letter: For Carrying Water in Portugal



OLD HOUSES AT WORCESTER BADLY IN NEED OF REPAIR



(Left to right) No. 29, NEW STREET, KNOWN AS KING CHARLES'S HOUSE, TRINITY HOUSE, WHICH ORIGINALLY BELONGED TO THE GUILD OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GREY FRIARS HOSTEL, IN FRIAR STREET

See letter Old Houses at Worcester

but there is another. It was found some twenty years ago that deer and cattle were grazing down the leaves and that the flowers were appearing with less profusion. About a quarter of the Meadow was therefore fenced off from grazing animals. In this part the grass has now grown to an abundance in the rest of the Meadow they have practically disappeared. STEPHEN LEE Magdalen College, Oxford

OLD HOUSES AT WORCESTER

SIR—Probably on account of the war three of the old timber houses of Worcester are now in a sad state and need urgent repairs if they are to be saved.

No 29 New Street shown in my first photograph is known as King Charles's House. King Charles is reputed to have taken refuge in it after the battle of Worcester. It bears the date 1577 and the inscription 'Love God Honour the King.'

Trinity House, illustrated in the second photograph, is associated with the Guild of the Holy Trinity which

before its suppression in 1546 had established almshouses and a school. The house was occupied by the school master. Some years ago when the land on which it stood was needed to construct a new road, the building was moved to a house on ground only 100 ft. from its original site 80 yards away.

Grey Friars is a fine timber-framed building with overhanging upper storey depicted in the other picture. It was built in 1485 as a hostel of the Grey Friars. After the suppression of the friary it became a gaol and in 1602 it was let on a 400 year lease which still has over 56 years to run. The gables have carved barge boards and bracketed eaves, from slender attached shafts.

STEPHEN LEE ARCHITECTURE Worcester

FOR EASE IN TIME-TELLING?

SIR—I enclose with

showing two views of a sundial of unknown age, which was found at Ruislip Middlesex by Capt. Davies of Old Clack Farm Ruislip. It is curious (and new to me) in that it has a style on the north end of the upright board which records the time before 6 a.m. and after 6 p.m.

The iron plate on the main style gives a further dial. It was obviously meant to stand on a low pedestal or wall and could be read from almost any point of view. I enclose a photograph of the same dial.

HILTON L. INGRAM, Stag Lane, Chorley Wood, Hertfordshire

THE CAUSES OF FOREST FIRES

SIR—A fire which last month destroyed more than 1,400 acres of forest near Stockholm was reported to have been started by sparks from the steel industry. This is interesting and it would be interesting to know of similar causes recorded in the past. There is at least one authenticated instance of a forest fire having been caused by sparks from a boulder crashing down a stony slope.

Lightning is often cited as an extremely serious cause of forest fires in territories so far apart as California and Finland. In his paper on the Structure and Reproduction of the Virgin Forest of the North Temperate Zone in 'The Natural Physiognomy of Deciduous Forests' Dr. W. W. Jones notes: 'In California up to 350 fires have been started on a single day by a single storm as it travelled over the county (Shaw and Kotol, 1923) and it is not uncommon for over 200 fires to start from a single storm.'

In Britain however, neither lightning nor sparks from loaded wheels or dislodged boulders should be considered as a serious fire hazard. Nor should glass bottles have the blame laid on so often than upon them. Mr. W. H. Taylor (the new Director General of Forestry) wrote in 1945: 'Experiments made in France some years ago with pieces of glass of all sizes shapes and colours



ROOK WITH ABNORMAL MARKINGS

SIR—I enclose a photograph of a young rook with grey tips to its feathers, shot here recently. Four of these rooks were obtained last year and two this year.

Rooks marked like this are supposed to be rare. Certainly I have never seen any before. The peculiarity is presumably atavistic. W. H. FOREST, Odsey, Ashwell, Hertfordshire

(Varieties of the rook with abnormal markings though decidedly uncommon are recorded from time to time. In the Natural History Museum at South Kensington there is a wing of one with somewhat similar markings to those on the bird shown in our correspondent's photograph.)

AN ECONOMIC CHAFFINCH

SIR—I ate in April a chaffinch's nest was found in a pyracantha trained up a supporting column of my verandah about five feet from the ground and within six feet of a window. Four eggs were laid and hatched out and the young birds flew in a few weeks leaving the nest in almost perfect condition.

In this country sparrows from rail way engines are the worst and most prolific single cause of forest fires. Next come various forms of human carelessness, such as fire-spreading from out matches, cigarette ends and picnics, fires.

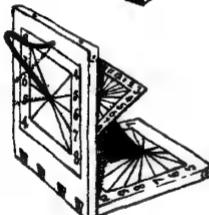
It is for these reasons that many fire towers have been built and the country in which has been kept throughout danger seasons. The towers vary in size, the accompanying photograph is of a medium or medium large one in Burton Forest near Peterfield in Hampshire. It is from the foot of this tower where the man is standing, it is possible to see the Isle of Wight which lies some 20 miles away quite clearly.

Last year fire damage in the State Forests cost £26,000. It would be interesting to know what were the costs of fire protection—building and maintenance of towers, fire-fighting equipment, fire-watching, fire patrols and so forth. WOODMAN and BARKER, Berkshire



A FOUR-FACED SUNDIAL FOUND AT RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX

See letter For Ease in Time-telling



A FORESTRY COMMISSION FIRE TOWER IN HAMPSHIRE

See letter The Causes of Forest Fires



A CEYLON TODDY-TAPPER CLIMBING A COCONUT PALM.
(Right) WEARING HIS LEATHER BREAST-PLATE AND ANKLE-STRAPS AND HOLDING HIS TAPPING KNIFE

See letter: *Toddy-Tappers in Ceylon*

near more than one brood, nor that material from an old nest may be used for the building of a new one.—C. J. SMYTH, *The White House, Lynch Road, Farnham, Surrey.*

[Chaffinches do sometimes rear a second brood, but we have never before heard of them using material from their first nest to build another.—Ed.]

RAILWAY ACCIDENT EPIGRAPH

SIR.—The lines quoted (May 23) by Mrs. M. U. Jones from a tombstone in Bromsgrove cemetery to the memory of Thomas Scaife, who died as a result of a railway accident there on November 10, 1841, are as follows:—
An inscription with but a couple of capital differences in Whickham Churchyard, County Durham. There the stone commemorates Oswald Gardiner (wrongly engraved Gardner), who lost his life in an accident on the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway on August 15, 1840.

Substantially the same inscription is said to appear on the tombstone of a Derby engine driver in Derby Cemetery; at Winwick, near Warrington; and in the cemetery at Alton, Illinois, where a locomotive (and engine driver) of the old Chicago and Mississippi Railroad is stated to have written the lines while he lay awaiting death. If this be true, doubtless he had seen or heard them quoted from the earlier English use.

In Harrow churchyard, Middle-

sex, there is a similar monument to the memory of Thomas Port, who died from loss of blood in August, 1838, after having had both his legs severed by a train. The lines engraved upon it are:—

*Bright rose the morn and vig'rous rose
Port,
On the Train he used his wonted
sport.
Ere morn arrived his mangled form
they bore
With pain distorted and overwhelmed
with gore.
With evening came to close the fatal
day.*

*A mutilated corpse the sufferer lay.
—CHARLES F. LEE, 2, Duke's Road,
W.C.1.*

[Other correspondents have drawn attention to the unfortunate Port's accident, which probably occurred on the London and Birmingham Rail-way, in the southern section of which had been in use since July 20, 1837.—Ed.]

TODDY-TAPPING IN CEYLON

SIR.—From the luscious sap exuding, after treatment, from the spathes of the unopened flowers of the coconut and palm trees, is collected a sweet juice which is allowed to ferment, forms toddy—a slightly intoxicating drink very popular with the rural folk in Ceylon.

This beverage is extracted by a special caste of people (the Climber caste, called the Nalavas) who are

very agile climbers, seeming to possess prehensile feet. One man can "tap" the toddy from a score or more of palms in a morning.

An interesting feature of this operation is that the toddy-tapper, who is usually dressed for the work, climbs the tall palm, and instead of a loop of some flexible jungle creeper passed round his ankles, leaving just a little space between them. This enables him to grasp the trunk of the tree with his feet (as shown in my first photograph) which support him not only when he ascends the palm, but also when he collects the juice into an earthen pot held in his hands. Further, as the bark of the palm-trunk is often rough and irregular, he wears a leather-strap on either foot so as not to hurt his skin.

He wears a cloth, not, especially when he climbs palm-tree palms, which have tougher stems, he wears, as an additional safeguard, a sort of "breast-plate" of stout leather to protect his chest (illustrated in the other picture), which must often come into contact with the rough surface.—
S. V. O. SOMANADAR, *Batticaloa, Ceylon.*

A 17TH-CENTURY SNUFF RASP

SIR.—In the days before the production of snuff became commercialised, the ladies had to make their own snuff, powdering themselves and for this purpose a rasp, or rape, was carried in the pocket. When designed for the use of persons of quality these objects were often intricately carved.

My photograph shows such a one with markings of various kinds of date, and the name of the owner, and of French origin, made of boxwood.

The name rasp is derived from the French *réper*, to grate or rasp, and is continued in the English word rasp, so frequently on the lips of the snuff-taking exponents of the 18th century.—GEOFFREY TREMAINE, 6, *Alexandra Villas, Brighton.*

ALMS-HOUSES AND THE GENTLY-BORN

SIR.—Your recent correspondence about almshouses for the gently-born prompts me to send you the enclosed photograph of a pair of former almshouses known as John Abbott's Ladies' Home, at Skircoat Green, Halifax, Yorkshire. These almshouses consist of semi-detached houses in their own private park, with handsome trees and lawns, and there is a garden in the rear where the ladies live at a lodge at the entrance drive.

They are for ladies of social position, and were erected in 1876 by the trustees of the late John Abbott, a bachelor and sometimes chairman of the Halifax Joint Stock Banking Company, who was born on April 22, 1794, and died on March 13, 1870, leaving a sum of money for the erection of a suitable memorial to him.—ARNOLD LOWTERT, 310, *Hopwood Lane, Halifax, Yorkshire.*

A VILLAGE OF WIDE SYMPATHIES

SIR.—Today, when there are many calls upon our charity both at home for the victims of snow and flood and of the Continent for the war-distracted millions, it may be interesting to recall the various collections made about the years 1660-61 in Allington, a small Wiltshire village in the Avon valley not far from Salisbury, and recorded in the parish register, there, some fragmentary pages of which I was able, with the permission of the rector, to inspect some years ago.

As the following extracts show, in Restoration days the parochioners of this village gave freely, contributing their almsgivings to local interests:—

*Collected for the borough of
Watchet in the county of Somerset
towards the repair of that harbour
7th day of July 1661—16.*

I understand that Watchet harbour had been badly damaged by a

storm about this time, but it would be interesting to hear from more local sources of any record of a great storm, and whether the town's harbour was in fact rebuilt at that time.

*Collected for the sufferers in the
dukedome of Lithuania this 22nd day
of December (1661) the summs of 1/6.*

The duchy of Lithuania was, about that time, a Polish-Lithuanian kingdom, but I am unable to find out from what its inhabitants might have been suffering, whether from persecution, war, flood or plague.

*Collected towards rebuilding the
church of Pontefract, Yorkshire this
2nd day of July 1661—1/6.*

Pontefract Church was badly damaged in the Civil War during three sieges of the castle and even to-day the nave, choir and aisles remain in ruins, though part was repaired in 1695.

The last extract is a reminder that, besides numerous depredations by Parliamentary soldiers, Yorkshire churches had suffered more serious



A PAIR OF ALMS-HOUSES IN A YORKSHIRE PARK.

See letter: *Alms-houses and the Gentry-born*

A BOXWOOD SNUFF RASP OF FRENCH WORKMANSHIP

See letter: *A 17th-century Snuff Rasp*

damage from bombardments in the Civil War. Scarborough parish church similarly remains a ruin to-day after the siege of the castle in 1645, and yet a third major parish church, that of Bradford (now the cathedral) might well have suffered the same fate but was too heavily built up with wool packs as a protection against cannon shot during the siege of 1642-3.—EDWARD W. GARNETT, *Oaklands, Apperley Bridge, near Bradford, Yorkshire.*

Jack-in-the-Green.—The English Folk Dance and Song Society are trying to collect as many illustrations of Jack-in-the-Green as possible, and I should be very grateful if anyone who knows of any carvings or other representations of this figure, such as are published in *Country Life* recently, would get in touch with me. —MAHOGANY DANCE-SOCIETY, Library, The English Folk Dance and Song Society's Regent's Park Road, N.W.1.



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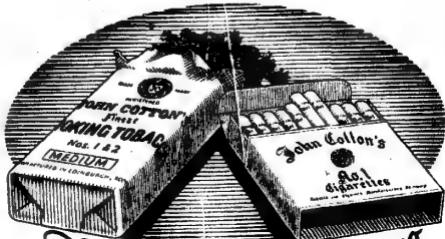


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PROGRESS AT GOODINGS

JUNE HAY AND SILAGE By ANTHONY HURD

LOADING GRASS FOR SILAGE-MAKING AT GOODINGS

NOT until June 12 were we able to start cutting hay at Goodings, the Country Life estate in Berkshire. Early June hay makes the best feed for the dairy cows, and as milk production is becoming our main concern at Goodings we want to get all the good hay we can for next winter. Our ricks of old hay vanished before the end of April. The new season's cut is not as heavy as we should have liked, but the grass started growing late and the quality should be satisfactory. It is all seeds hay. We have no permanent grass meadows that can be cut; indeed the only permanent grass that remains now is the small acreage of water meadow alongside the Lambourn. The last old grass field close to the buildings was ploughed this spring; half was sown to oats and vetches for silage, and the other half is going into late-sown kale, which we shall either feed direct to the cows or convert into silage if we have plenty of other autumn feed.

Making silage of kale may seem an unnecessary laborious business, but kale cut on the young side in the autumn, and conserved in a silo, may give better feed value than the same crop would do if it were left standing in the field until after Christmas, when, in hard weather, much of the virtue of the leaves perishes or is consumed by the pigs. I am interested in a report from Jaslot's Hill Research Station on the value of kale for ensiling. Five large silos at Jaslot's Hill were filled with chopped kale and the losses calculated. No. 1 was filled with 11 tons kale in two days, No. 2 with 45 tons in three days, No. 3 with 47½ tons in five days, No. 4 with 40 tons in two days and No. 5 with 25 tons in five days. In silos 3 and 5, which were filled more slowly, a very satisfactory fermentation gave a particularly good quality silage. So, where silage-making must be fitted in between the morning and afternoon milkings, it would seem that the slower input is advantageous. But silo 4—with 20 tons a day ensiled—also produced good silage. The top half was excellent, but the lower half, which had not heated sufficiently—though it was

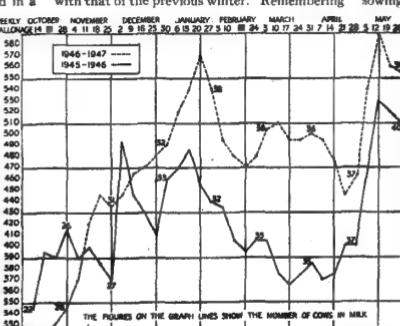
quite palatable and pleasant—was not so good. All told, about one-third of the dry matter of the kale was lost by fermentation and seepage which is rather higher than with grass silage. A 25-ton crop of kale will yield about 14 tons of silage. And assuming the kale contained 15 per cent. crude protein in the dry matter, as is likely, this would mean 750 lb. crude protein and 600 lb. digestible crude protein per acre—a yield that few crops can excel. A 25-ton crop is no more than average, and with generous fertilising it can be 30–40 tons per acre.

At Goodings our concern in the past month has been to make as much good silage as we could from grass, and we hope we have got some useful stuff together. Last winter we should have been able to feed our cows better if there had been another 20 tons of silage at hand. This would have made our hay go further, and, I expect, helped to increase our milk yield. The gallonage output during the winter months showed a satisfactory improvement. The chart shows the winter 1946–47 milk output compared with that of the previous winter.

the most disagreeable weather endured in February and March, the cows, half of them Ayrshires with their first calves, performed satisfactorily. When we have changed over completely to Ayrshires, which we should have look by next autumn, the herd average should look considerably brighter.

When I wrote on May 9 about our losses of growing crops on account of the hard weather I was too optimistic. One 24-acre field of wheat had been badly "washed" and the plant of wheat was thin, but it looked healthy enough. By the end of May it was evident that we should not get more than half a crop of wheat and there were too many thistles showing their heads. This field carried potatoes last year, and we spent much effort hoeing the thistles, but too many seeds survived. What we did was to plough up the wheat and, after some scarifying, sow linseed. This has now come through well, and I hope we may get a fair yield. The preliminary costs, including the cultivation and sowing of wheat, on this field will make a formidable total, which will need a full crop of linseed at £4.5 a ton to match returns with the costs.

The other autumn-sown wheat does not look very happy. It has been given a top-dressing of nitrogen, but the plant is thin in places. The spring-sown barley has made much stronger growth and the Aberystwyth winter oats also promise well. The lucerne and the grass and clover leys which the cows have been grazing have made fair growth, but it is still evident that the fertility of our land was drawn on heavily in the war years by successive corn cropping. It will take another year or two of restoration tactics to give us the basic fertility to grow crops of which we can be really proud. Now that we have piped water laid on to all the fields and stockproof fencing surrounds those going in turn into ley, we should be on the right road to the alternate husbandry that this land needs if it is to be fully productive.



BETTER MILK YIELDS AT GOODINGS. Last winter's output compared with that of the winter of 1945–46

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NEW BOOKS

WOMAN MOTORIST'S TALE OF TRAVEL

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

MISS ELLA K. MAILLART'S new travel book, *The Cruel Way* (Heinemann, 18s.), records a journey inwards and outwards. In the summer before the war broke out the author, with her friend Christina, decided to travel from Switzerland to Afghanistan. Except for ship transport through the Black Sea, they went by motor-car, passing through parts of Turkey and through Persia. Miss Maillart's description of the physical side of this journey, illustrated with many fine photographs, gives us the outward aspect of the

But it was not to seek such modern intrusions as these that Miss Maillart made her journey. Asked why she travelled, she answered: "To meet those who know how to live peacefully"; and in this quest which I have spoken of as the inner exploration. Here and there she seems to realise that it is a quest doomed for ever to be fruitless if pursued merely through space, however thinly inhabited, however ancient and austere, and breathing whatever magic of perished years. It is a quest that each must make into his own heart.

THE CRUEL WAY. By Ella K. Maillart (Heinemann, 18s.)

MR. WHITTLE AND THE MORNING STAR. By Robert Nathan (Sampson Low, 7s. 6d.)

SAY THE WORD. By Ivor Brown (Cape, 6s.)

matter: people met, things seen, all the thousand small, and sometimes not so small, arduous and endurance that make up such a journey as this. The difficulties, of course, are far greater now than before the world was "civilised." There then was a tradition of hospitality to travellers, almost religious necessity to share bread and salt with a stranger. This still exists among simple people who have not been poisoned by "ideologies," but from all travellers' tales one gathers that, as soon as an "official" is met, something different may be expected.

"At the Persian post, a sort of great school hall, we feared we should not be allowed to travel further. Though it vexed him, the official had to admit that he did not know what to do with a *trystique* and *carte de passage* Convinced by our explanations, our border-official was at last prepared to let us go; but, exhausted by our fear of eloquence, we were incapable of correctly counting our European banknotes. This error, discovered later when we wanted to leave the country, filled an hour with disagreeable tension."

TOUCHINESS IN HIGH PLACES

That was before the war, and since then, of course, every country has become touchier still and "disagreeable tension" is the normal condition which travellers may expect. In Persia, even then, Miss Maillart found touchiness in many places. She was told of the Shah that he "takes it as an insult not to be thought worthy of a Minister having served in one of the great capitals of the world," and he was angered by a pun in a Paris paper.

Motor-tires and inner-tubes were rare in Persia. "For the wedding of the Crown Prince, which had taken place two months before, all the cars in Teheran had been requisitioned by the Shah. They were punctually returned but their tyres had been replaced by worthless ones! There is such a lack of tyres and lorries in Iran that even the trucks of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company—the uncrowned queen of the country—were sometimes seized by army officers and stripped of what they needed."

The only man of whom one can ask that he should "live peacefully" is oneself.

EUROPE'S MALADY

But the journey had to be made, for questions were hammering at Miss Maillart's heart: "When did Europe begin to go wrong? When did we cease to be worthy of ourselves, cease to carry our head with dignity? Why are traditional cultures everywhere so weakened that they crumble before our materialism which has put nothing in their place?"

And so it is no wonder that she goes forth to find what she may. "Joy, yes, and peace—peaceful flocks thudding past the great castle where in the 17th century a king of Haibak started a campaign in favour of Pushti, the language of the Afghan tribes; peace of the earth yielding its yellow wheat to peasants clad in white; peace of a steady world that knows nothing of our forty-eight-hour week or organised leisure," of cylinder presses that flood the world with innumerable paper."

But all over this world she finds the European engineers building roads, bridges, dams, the bourgeoisie St. Johns of our time, crying in the wilderness to prepare the way for our saviour the machine. In the face of all this, we see her and her drug-craving companion flying, flying, and the miasma ever fading, fading. She wants to shout to these Easterners the words of Matthew Arnold:

But fly our paths, our feverish contact fly!

For strong the infection of our mental strife,
Which, though it gives no bliss, yet spoils for rest;
And we should win thee from thy
our fair life,
Like us distrusted, and like us unblest!

But how far can one fly, ever? Another poet gives a duality answer: *Ah, hoffi, whither will thou turn,*
When art there, when thou art there?

This same world of uncertainty and uneasiness lies behind the American professor of history, Mr. Whittle, in



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Robert Nathan's short novel, *Mr. Whittle and the Morning Star* (Sampson Low, 7s. 6d.). Mr. Whittle knew of something that had not appeared in the times of which Miss Mailart writes: the atom bomb. "The foremost scientists in the country, plus the heads of the army and navy, all agreed that the end of the world was coming and that it was merely a matter of time."

HOPE AND DESPAIR

Mr. Whittle (or shall we say Mr. Nathan?) is bewildered by the question that bewilders Miss Mailart: "When did Europe begin to go wrong?" she asks; and Mr. Whittle reflects: "What had he thought about at that age?—at eighteen, at nineteen? Life . . . the leap of spirit, like a salmon bent upstream, the wish blown into the wind like dandelion seed, the ached heart, the running joy. . . . What was he thinking about now? Death. How could that have happened in so few years? How indeed? One day the world was full of light and hope; and the next, both hope and light were gone."

Mr. Nathan has no solution to offer us. He can only show us Mr. Whittle caught in this dilemma. Mr. Whittle is one of those pathetic "little men" that Wells liked to portray in his early novels. He falls in love with one of his pupils, or rather gives way to a dizzying moment that clearly could not last. At the same time his wife has a moment of attraction towards an elderly banker. Mr. Whittle falls ill, and their rasher stolid comradeship re-establishes itself. What all this has to do with the doom that Mr. Whittle apprehends it is difficult to understand, unless the lesson is that, doom or no doom, men and women will go their wanton ways up to the very edge of extinction. However, on what one takes to be his death-bed, Mr. Whittle has a conversation with God, and God asks the important question: "Do you think it polite to slam the door in my face?" Of course, Mr. Whittle answers: "I didn't slam the door," and the tragedy is that we all say that; we are all ready and anxious (if I may use a phrase Mr. Whittle would have understood) to pass the buck.

STUDENT OF WORDS

Ivor Brown on words is always from good fun and good sense. Almost from childhood I delighted in Archbishop Trench's *Study of Words and English Past and Present*, and I love those books still. But I rejoice that readers of the present generation can have as good scholarship as the archbishop could, and deep an insight into where words came from, what they are doing now, and what they may be expected to do, and that they may have this wholesome dish served up with a seasoning of wit that Trench could not command, and with a wealth of beautiful illustration that he could not, or at least did not, supply.

Mr. Brown's new book, *Say the Word* (Cape, 6s.), is as good as the others he has written and that is as well, for never did slovenly talk or overblown writing so need the gay troucings it here receives. Mr. Brown calls high-flying writers "puddlers" and their speech "puddering," and the introductory essay on the art of "puddering" is a fine exercise in the use of the fly-whisk, driving off these bumblets that turn our language圃trid.

It is good to know that Mr. Brown's publisher persuaded him not to call this book *Having the Last Word*, not to end his hearty laying-about on

the pates of the pudderer. There is so much to do. As he himself reminds us: "While the flowers of speech can still seed themselves, and more abundantly, do the weeds. One may toil away with the gardening tool to keep them down, but, in the vocabulary as in the flower-bed and the field, there is always a hard row to hoe." And, anyway, "language is forever fertile and forever young. There is no last word."

This book is great value in a little space, sound entertainment and sound instruction.

GARDEN BOOKS

MOST of Raymond Bush's delightful essays in *Fruit Salad* (Cassells, 8s. 6d.) have appeared before in whole or in part, but, even when read for the second time, they are as enter-taining as ever. Mr. Bush's book is worth a deep insight into the frailties of human nature. His pen-studies of the diverse characters he has met on his fruit farms and elsewhere are perfect cameos, redolent with humour and incidentally, though not accidentally, bursting with practical and practical information on fruit growing.

Pests are something which most gardeners would fain forget, but, like the poor, they are always with us. There have been many handbooks to aid gardeners in their fight against them, but never before one that makes diagnosis so easy as *The Recognition and Control of Garden Pests* (Creschlockwood, 12s. 6d.) by G. Fox Wilson, entomologist to the Royal Horticultural Society. As a layman cannot recognize pests from a scientific description, he has based his book on recognizable symptoms. For example, if one finds a plant with scaly or silvered foliage it is only necessary to turn to the chapter on Foliage. There under the heading of Foliage Scaly and Foliage Silvered will be found the cause and the remedy. There are similar chapters on every significant part of a plant.

In the *A.B.C. of Gardening* series by W. E. Shewell Cooper (Hodder and Stoughton, 4s. 6d.), the *A.B.C. of Fruit Growing* has been issued in revised form. It is a practical volume for the beginner. D. T. MACF.

NEW VERSE

IN the creation of images, the flowering of insight into vivid verbal beauty, Mr. Stanley Snaith stands first, both in quality and quantity, among four poets whose books have recently appeared. There is the *Book of Light* (Dent, 6s.) memorable for delight or for understanding: the young chestnut that showed already "a timbly grip on Fact"; the moorhen "a plumby ball of soot," the knell of doom in "the dead's unbearable pardon." Influenced but not overwhelmed by his Lakeland background, Snaith is doing quiet, fine work in poetry.

Mr. John Short has more of the regional (Lakeland again), less of depth and discipline, than Mr. Snaith. He is consciously, even self-consciously, a "modern," which means, among other things, that his verse yields little to *Quare*. The *Book of the Dead* and *The Ask* (Dent, 6s.) is already deservedly well known. In that direction—modernity combined with simplicity and brevity—lies his future, if he will take it.

When, in *Histerland* (Dent, 6s.), Mr. H. S. Studdon is punningly asked if he is so well able to use an affective plainness, as in *Sonata*. However, in more modish ways, he has some good poems, notably *The Shell*.

Miss Agnes Grotier Herbertson's son, *Here Is My Signature* (Hutchinson, 6s.), carries a slight, though suggestive, note of swagger, but her best work, such as "Sleep, and be lonely as a valley," is fine. She, too, can find a supreme image, as of the woman in *Sorrel Visit*, who "entered—breathless, wanining like a match."

V. H. F.



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FARMING NOTES

FARM WAGES CLAIM

ON July 2 the Agricultural Wages Board is to consider again the demand of the workers' representatives for a substantial increase in the minimum rates of pay to the last £1. The National Union of Agricultural Workers is asking for even more than the weekly minimum of £4 10s. which was previously claimed, but they are not asking for a reduction in the hours below 48 weekly. The N.U.A.W. is arguing that more workers should be attracted to farming, and this can be done only by making the industry more attractive. The Transport and General Workers' Union, which also have some agricultural members, are joining forces with the N.U.A.W. The National Farmers' Union is inclined to support the workers' claim because in their view the economic position of farm-workers does not now compare unfavourably with that in other industries and farming profits have been falling. Looking at the economic position of the agricultural industry as a whole, the workers' claim because in their view the economic position of farm-workers does not now compare unfavourably with that in other industries and farming profits have been falling. Looking at the economic position of the agricultural industry as a whole, the N.U.A.W. speakers do not think it is possible to increase food subsidies, and obviously this is the source from which higher farm wages would have to be made. There are no spare profits which farmers can be expected to disgorge, and the biggest labour bill in the N.U.A.W. is the Agricultural Wages Board have the courage on this occasion to decide that the earnings of farm-workers shall be on a realistic basis by reckoning cottage rents at their true value. In an average case to-day the farm-worker earns perhaps £5 10s. a week. If he is a tractor driver his pay packet is nearly £5 a week. There is a hidden income also in the nominal rent which he pays for his house. Usually this is £3 a week, whereas the true value of the house may be £10s. or £12s. a week. Since the best cottages in the country electric light and water are just as good as any of the new local authority houses in the villages for which rents of £14s. a week are charged. There are some farm-workers' cottages, off the hard road, with no amenities, that are not worth £10s. a week. Let us consider a fair average value of £10s. or £12s. a week for a farm cottage. Take this into account and the present minimum wage rates for farm-workers do not look unfair against those in towns.

World Wheat Supplies

THE Americans are expecting that the world demand for wheat will exceed supplies again in the coming year. The United States has most promising crops, and the winter wheat crop there is considered a record, and 475,000,000 bushels should be available for export. But European wheat crops are likely to be lighter this year even than they were last year because of the severe winter kill in France and other Western European countries. We know, here in England, that the loss of autumn-sown wheat has been exceptionally heavy—possibly 10 per cent. taking the country as a whole. On the Continent as much as a third or a half of the wheat has been lost through winter kill. Russia should have good crops, but the acreage is still below the pre-war level. The United States would do doubt like to be able to build up her carry-over of wheat to more normal proportions. She has cleaned herself out pretty well this summer, and the carry-over on July 1 is expected to be about 25,000,000 bushels less than last year.

Imported Grass Seeds

IT seems strange in these days of dollar scarcity that we should be spending 3,237,000 dollars on buying grass and clover seeds from the United States. The bulk of these seeds are red

clover, timothy and alsike. We are importing red clover to the value of 1,600,000 dollars and alsike to the value of 1,000,000 dollars. This has been done because of the difficulty of the seed trade, which should know the position, home supplies were likely to be short of requirements. The red clover crop was a comparative failure here last year. No doubt the Treasury would much prefer to see any grass seed imports come from the United States rather than from New Zealand or Denmark. I understand that the grass seeds that New Zealand has to offer are mainly those which we already grow in the United Kingdom, such as rye grass and cocksfoot, and Denmark offers us cocksfoot. I understand we already have enough, but there are some particular kinds of Danish cocksfoot that we need to import and these have been bought. I am assured that it is not the Government's policy to import grass and clover seeds to keep down the price of home-grown seeds.

Light Hay Cuts

IN the southern districts some early hay was got together without a drop of rain and this should make some excellent feeding material for the cows new winter. But the cold nights spell again in mid-June, and dry spell kept back the bottom growth, and the cuts I have seen are not at all heavy. Every ton of hay that can be saved will be wanted, as few farmers have any carry-over from last season. It is a problem now-a-days to get any hay in the early part of the year. All the permanent grass meadows that the formerly provided soft hay have disappeared under the plough and almost all the hay now-a-days comes from the temporary leys. Even when leys are cut on the young seed, their vigorous growth is apt to be more rapid than the meadow grass, and the resulting hay is on the hard side for young calves. Their gums are readily bruised or pricked and they get swollen jaws which are tiresome to deal with.

Rations for Pigs and Poultry

THERE is still no definite news of the amounts of feeding-stuffs to which farmers, big and small, will be entitled next winter. Meanwhile those who are anxiously awaiting the chance to expand their pigs and poultry are reluctantly take further risks. Some increased their breeding stocks last year, but they faced this year with the necessity for killing off useful young sows and reducing the number of hens. Pressed to give farmers some indication of the likely supplies of feeding-stuffs, Mr. Tom Williams has shifted the responsibility to the Minister of Food, who imports the feeding-stuffs, and he, in turn, according to Mr. Williams, is on the hands of those who sell and transport feeding-stuffs, so no guarantee can be given until the feeding-stuffs arrive. This game between the departments is all very well, but in the days of the control of feeding-stuffs was in the hands of private traders they knew what was coming forward several months ahead. It was their business to cover the needs of the markets, and while it is probably true that they were operating to-day they will not be able to supply the market to meet all needs. They would at least know the quantities that they had bought and that would come forward. Apparently to-day even the Government with all its powers is not a free agent in buying feeding-stuffs. It has to conform to the recommendations of the International Emergency Food Committee. This is, I understand, an advisory body without executive powers, but we are honest enough to observe its advice.

CINCINNATI.

ESTATE MARKET

SUPPLY AND DEMAND

A GREAT authority on the economics of transport, the late Mr. Yerkes, an American who took a very prominent part in the promotion of "tube" railways in London, used to say that "supply creates demand." This may be true of traffic demands that are some other things, but the principle is true and acted upon, or it was in the days of a limitless supply of goods, by, for example, shopkeepers who often dressed their windows with a lavish display of some single commodity. Does the principle hold good of real property? In the case of a property buyer, livelier when there is an abundant choice than when less is on offer?

The answer, founded on agency experience, would seem to be in the affirmative. The would-be buyer of a country freehold would make out of half a dozen that he intends to inspect in one run in his car is more likely to decide on having one of them than if his choices were restricted to one only, and that not merely because he has seen more houses but because of the stimulation of an ample supply.

To a certain extent every vacation period showed this, judging by the proportion of sales compared with that in the active months of the year. This was so in the pre-war period, when it was the rule to suspend the holding of auctions until the end of July, until the end of September. This rule has been more honoured in the breach than in the observance in the last seven or eight years, and the flow of business now-a-days continues without interruption so long as there is anything to offer.

NEW FACTORS AFFECTING SALE OF PROPERTIES

AT the moment there is a slight slackening of inquiries for residential property, and there have been one or two rather disappointing auctions. This is not surprising, and may be partly due to the fact that so many new factors need to be examined now-a-days, relative, for instance, to environment. It is no longer prudent to assume that some district with a traditional reputation for quietude and security will always satisfy all who enquire of that character, and it may be necessary also to consider the probability of the creation not very far away of a new township, or the conversion of some neighbouring seat to other than time-honoured private residence. Amenities may disappear through uncongenial neighbours.

SALE OF CAMBRIDGE SITES

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE has sold to the Corporation of Cambridge sites in the business centre of the town, namely, 9,200 square feet with frontage on Newmarket Road, Nos. 16, and to Alexandra Street, at Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 14a, and the loading shed premises of the old Post Office. The Corporation already own properties adjoining the old Post Office, having acquired them some time ago. Messrs. Gend Eve and Co. acted as valuers for the Corporation, and the College was represented by Mr. Norman J. Hodgkinson (Messrs. Biddle and Sons).

ADJOINING WENTWORTH GOLF COURSE

SIR HAROLD SNAGGE has decided to dispose of Shepperry House, Virginia Water, Surrey. One of the boundaries of the 3 or 4 acres of garden extends along Wentworth golf course. The agents are Messrs. Hampton and Sons.

Forefield, Bostock, Sussex, one of the properties listed by the Chichester office of Messrs. Jackson-Stops and Staff to have been sold by them, is a residence in 48 acres with a

long frontage to Chichester Harbour. It was bought some of the lots at a Colvyn Bay auction, held on behalf of executors by Messrs. Edwards Son and Bidgood and Mathews. The freehold is at Rhos-on-Sea in Denbighshire, and the aggregate realisation was within £50 to £56,000.

Carlyon, in the parish of St. John, 50 acres, at Kew Hill, near Twyford, Berkshire, has been sold by Major Allnatt, the agents concerned being Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Mr. Cyril Jones.

Sandbanks, five miles from both Bournemouth and Poole, Dorset, is described by Messrs. Fox and Sons as "a favoured all-the-year-round seaside resort at the head of Bournemouth Bay and at the entrance to Poole Harbour." The firm has just sold Sidcot, a freehold there, for £5,260. They have, on behalf of executors, sold White Lilliput, Parkstone, freehold for £3,800.

SALE OF A MODEL FRUIT FARM

AN East Kent holding of 10 acres has just changed hands for £13,500, through Messrs. Alfred Burrows, Clements, Winch and Sons. It is Smurton, at Boughton Aluph, the home of the late Mr. W. H. Smith. Local opinion, as expressed by a correspondent, is that "the price, even in these days of high figures, is very noteworthy."

It may be well here to examine in some detail the nature of the holding. First of all there is a comfortable, roomy, "labour-saving" house which was designed by an architect only ten years ago. It overlooks the fruit plantations, towards the North Downs, and the commemorative "Coronation Crown" cut in the chalk hillside to the west. The garden has been divided into compartments by low walls of grey flint and cement, the buildings have been specially designed and constructed for storing fruit and accommodating the requisite machinery, tractors and so forth, and there is electricity available.

NEARLY 2,000 TREES

THE fruit plantations, covering the whole of the best of the land, have been planned and managed on up-to-date lines with expert advice. It is now 17 years old, and forms an oblong block, enclosed by wire fences and rabbit netting. The trees are bush on Malling stocks, and the fruit is of the dessert variety. There are 1,900 trees, including (apples) Worcester Pearmain, Laxton's Superb, Beauty of Bath, and Cox's Orange Pippin, with, as pollinators, James Grieve. There are 100 half-standard Conference pears. The trees are 12 to 17 feet apart, in a staggered row. A further fact, symptomatic of the period, is that the present owner has a retail licence for one ton of fruit and a wholesale licence for 2½ tons, but much larger quantities could be sold to advantage both wholesale and retail if licences were obtained. The crops in the last three years have been: 1945, 2,700 bushels; 1944, 1,550 bushels; 1945, 4,800 bushels; and last year, 2,850 bushels.

The property was originally part of Boughton Court estate. The sale now noted was by order of Mr. S. F. Molwarsds. As the property is a Wy. College, the advantage of expert scientific assistance would seem probably obtainable if required. Perhaps it is not so certain that sufficient labour could always be available for cultivation and fruiting, but the fact remains that keep of such a holding must call for a considerable amount of skill and, but fruit-farming can be very remunerative.

ARMITER.

The ROYAL SHOW is back again

LINCOLN, JULY 1, 2, 3, 4

THIS YEAR there will be a Royal Show again for the first time since 1939. For over a century the 'Royal' has presented that is best in British Agriculture to the agriculturist as well as wealth of interest to all country lovers. This year again, the show will present the finest the country breeds in horses,



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Dairy farming has made tremendous strides in recent years. Output of milk has increased enormously, and cleanliness has become the maxim of the industry. With the present labour shortage, this has been a great achievement, largely due to the foresight of farmers in appreciating the value of machinery. Barford (Agricultural) Ltd., are proud of their part in the pioneering of Steam Sterilising Equipment which has helped to make CLEAN MILK production a reality. Their lead has been maintained and dairymen may be sure that if it's a "Barford" it's best.

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COUNTRY Week-end



Slacks with a pinafore top in crimson Moygashel
by Louis London from Harvey Nichols



Frock in canary yellow fine wool with a front buttoning to
below the waist and deep armholes. Jaeger

(Left) Felt blue Moygashel tailored suit, saddle stitching in
navy on the low revers. Last Ramage

WEEK-ENDERS have a mass of pretty clothes to choose from. Trim suits to travel in are tailored in linen, tweed, suiting, flannel and in thick rayons that are woven to look like hopsack or thick shantung. These suits have long jackets with gored basques, are padded or cut in curved sections so that they stand away from the hips, or cut away in front Regency fashion, when they mould the figure as closely as the paper on a wall. Either way the waist is nipped by every device in the tailor's art, so that it looks as minute as it can.

The suits are smartest in butter or honey yellows, in ice blue, dusty pink or pinky beige when they are linen; in dark grey, lichen green or mushroom beige when they are suiting; in navy when they are in rayon or in one of the warm shades of toast brown or caramel; in biscuit and brown herring-bone and basket weaves when they are tweed. Skirts keep to straight lines, though a few are pleated all round and are always longer than last summer.

Overcoats envelop the wearer in voluminous folds or gores set in the back from the shoulders. Armholes are deep, sleeves often wide, collars button up snugly to the chin. The collarless coat is generally compressed to the tiny waist by a deep, wide band holding the deep unpressed pleats or folds into the smallest possible span.

Travel coats with deep easy-fitting armholes have wide hemlines and the waistlines lowered at the back with a half-belt fitting snugly

(Continued on page 1230)

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into the small of the back and holding in the pleats or gores. There is a puce and almond green overcheck tweed of Brenner Sports that can be worn two ways—faring out from the shoulder at the back and belted in. The suit underneath is trim and neat waistless. The suit underneath is trim and neat waistless, puce tweed with large pleats worked in panels all round the skirt alternating with plain panels. A Koupy herring-bone coat in brown and beige has its own matching suit with the stripes worked horizontally on the jacket and a band and yoke instead of the more usual turn-down collar. You will find these three-piece in tweeds very chic and new-looking if your coupons will run to them.

avourite shades for the coats are camel and putty colour, French grey, off-white, oyster, lavender with chocolate brown for the tweeds, verdigris and lichen greens. They come in checked and herring-bone tweed, velours, frieze and corduroy and are worn with muffin berets held on the back of the head by a veil, or with oval felt hats that fit well on the head and look as though they had been pulled out over each ear.

JERSEY suits for next season are being shown in the collections and they are one of the best buys for a holiday, as you can wear them right on through the winter. The suits are smartest in the warm neutral tones and browns, and they are made with long jumpered box and knife-pleated skirts. Wolsey give their dark jumper suits a light front collar and revers—but with a belt with a vertical envelope-flapped pockets, and button it down the front in a stitched panel. Brenner show one in raisin brown with fronts of putty colour angora and a chic muffin beret in matching angora from Otto Lucas. Frederick Starke's mustard yellow jersey suit has sloping shoulders and a sunray of pleats underneath each arm of the long, slim jumper. Jaeger make jersey and fine wool crépe dresses with fly fronts and gathered or gored skirts, simple and elegant for a holiday or an office.

Woolen dresses are youthful looking in clear colours with tiny

Garden frock in Linen, scarlet poplin and corn yellow, printed with rustic figures. By Spectator

sleeves, gored skirts and close-fitting sweater tops buttoning down the front to below the waist. I have photographed one from Jaeger that typifies a whole series of woolen dresses of this summer, dresses that are easy to pack and have a swing to the hem that makes them gay to wear.

Some charming summer dance frocks in cotton look almost like dolls' frocks with the new mid-calf skirt, a wide ballerina's and a very low boat-shaped or wedge décolletage. Dorville show them in fine Sea Island cottons, either plaid or striped, navy and white or azure blue and white, or in cyclamen and pale blue marcella. They are enchantingly fresh in either fabric, also in the eyelet embroidery from Switzerland, with tiny sleeves and very full gathered skirts. Debenham and Freehely show them in white muslin dotted with black or blue with filmy ankle-length skirts and cross-over bodices. They also make an organdie frock for a girl with balloon sleeves and a floating gored skirt rising to a brief, tight bodice. In white or tobacco brown, it is perfect for a gala summer occasion, worn with fresh flowers in the hair.

There is an army of short jackets in the London shows that can be worn for either day or night in the country, in soft, fleecy woolens or in corduroy, in camel colour, vermillion, ice blue, cyclamen, dove grey. These jackets are hip length or end just below the waist like a sac jacket and fasten to the throat with a turn-down collar. In the first collections for the autumn the waist-length monkey jacket is appearing again.

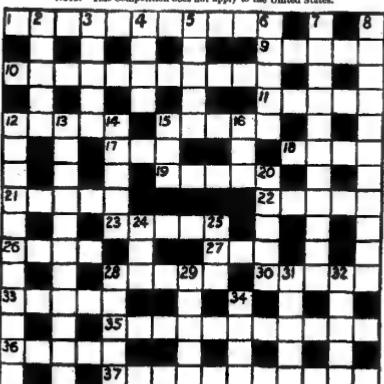
Odd jackets in bright-coloured, smooth-surfaced woolens or tweed, fitting closely to the figure, are double-breasted and almost finger-tip length and have the early 1920 look that is featured on many of the autumn fashions. Other styles include three-quarter jackets in check tweed, with immensely full backs and double-breasted fronts; box jackets in bright-coloured corduroy which Debenham make almost knee-length and slit at each side; Jaeger's cardigans, hiplength and wasted in thick wool.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

CROSSWORD No. 907

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution expand. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 907, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Thursday, July 3, 1947.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



Name _____
(Mr., Mrs., etc.)
Address _____

SOLUTION TO No. 906. The winner of this Crossword, the class of which appears in the issue of June 20, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—3. Axle; 9. Mammal; 9. Armour; 10. The best set; 11. Thirt; 12. Prejudice; 14. Laundry; 15. Chisel; 16. Spelling; 20. Dull; 21. Emiss; 22. Envy; 24. Apostrophe; 26. Arouse; 27. Forest; 28. Dumb; 29. DOWN—Potter; 32. Slab; 3. Amused; 4. Brussels sprouts; 5. Mantilla; 6. Amazement; 7. Rubric; 12. Facts; 15. Jamais vu; 18. Haste; 17. Engraved; 19. Peccary; 21. Stability; 22. Citharin; 23. Oars.

1. He has Group L (anagr.) (11)
9. Free, or, perhaps, coming away (5)
10. "Some word that teams with hidden meaning, like 'W. S. Gilbert' (11)
11. Mr. Churchill's well (5)
12. Reinhardt (5)
13. Predecessor of 28 down (5)
17. "I am a—, but not a—" (3)
18. Vorishish through (4)
19. What parts get caught in (8)
21. Avoid (5)
22. What is the real Law must do without the minister man (5)
23. You would expect to find these legs at this ness (5)
26. "We burn river?" (4)
27. Do minerals it is the age (3)
28. Don Quixote's was Rosinante (5)
30. "Thou —— of the dying year!"—Shelley (5)
33. Gruinard (5)
35. This Scottish town was not founded by the Conqueror (4, 7)
36. "O Cuckoo! Shall I call thee Bird, "Or but a wandering —?"—Wordsworth (5)
37. Dimly lit court? (4, 7)

DOWN

2. New World animal with a rising claim to university (5)
3. Exhortation to workers (5)
4. "You secret, black and midnight —"—Shakespeare (4)
5. Water gate (5)
6. But not yet in office (5)
7. What red cliffs give Devon (6, 6)
8. Mighty rock which —— (5)
9. "Spirit of Night!"—Shelley (7, 4)
12. Such combination should leave no finger-marks (4, 5)
13. Particular or rivals in transport? (4, 8, 4)
14. Long-haired ghosts? (5)
15. and 16. For Puss to take his evening meal (6)
20. Didn't Cleopatra was green (5)
- 24 and 25. Bitter feelings over the colour of headgear (6)
28. For valuable (5)
29. Here come the top (5)
31. Who should be pleased to open the door? (5)
32. She should be a pleasure to look at (5)
34. Affluent borough in Kent (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 906 is:

Mr. A. N. Rogers,
Lynwood,
Old Roar Road,
St. Leonards on Sea, Sussex.

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mouth
healthy
gums
clean
teeth
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